

BBC

DOCTOR WHO

THE MONSTERS OF GOKROTH by Matt Fitton

THE DOCTOR: SYLVESTER McCOY

Time and space traveller.

MAGS: JESSICA MARTIN

Traveller and werewolf.

DR MALEEVA:

(F, 30s+) Driven, Frankenstein-like scientist.

VARRON:

(M, 50s+) Flamboyant travelling showman, casually cruel.

TRELLA/ LIZARD-MONSTER:

(F, 40s+) Village leader./ A bloodthirsty Gokroth monster.

WILRIC:

(M, 20s) Brave young villager, who finds he is part-monster.

GOR/ BEAR-MONSTER/ PORROW/ VARRON'S CREATURE (FX):

(M, 30s+) Mutant servant of Maleeva, in love with her./ Fierce leader of Gokroth monsters./ Trusted village councillor. (Sc 2, 4, 12, 20)/ (FX) Dying cybernetic slave. (Sc 85, 87)

OTHERS:

BALVA: (F) Frightened villager (Sc 20)

SENTRY 1, SENTRY 2: (M/F) village guards (Sc 7, 43, 47-48, 56)

SCIENTIST: (M/F) (1 line, Sc 67)

WILDTRACKS: VILLAGERS (Sc 1-2, 16, 18, 46, 48-49, 55, 57, 62, 64, 69, 71, 78, 81, 89); **GOKROTH MONSTERS (FX, ANIMALISTIC)** (Sc 6, 27-29, 31, 34, 41-42, 47, 64, 66, 69, 71, 77-78, 81).

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PART ONE

SCENE 1: EXT. VILLAGE STREET

FX: A 'MEDIEVAL' RURAL VILLAGE ATMOS (AS PER CARPATHIAN VILLAGES IN UNIVERSAL STUDIOS MONSTER MOVIES). CARTS, ANIMALS, PEOPLE ON THE STREETS.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(DRIVING CARTS, HURRYING HOME) 'Come on.' 'Hurry up' 'Not long till curfew'

FX: MAGS STRIDES THROUGH STREET, WILRIC HURRIES AFTER HER.

WILRIC:

Don't do it, Mags. Please. Don't go up there!

MAGS:

I don't have a choice. It's why I came to this place.

FX: GUARDS BLOW CURFEW HORNS, OFF. VILLAGERS KERFUFFLE INDOORS MORE URGENTLY. RUNNING FOOTSTEPS, DOORS SLAM, THE STREET QUIETENS.

WILRIC:

See? Now it's curfew. You have to get inside.

MAGS:

I don't have to do anything. I'm not one of you. I'm a visitor here, that's all.

WILRIC:

Can't you wait another day? After what happened to Broda's family, people are scared to stay in their own homes. Most are sleeping in the Great Hall.

MAGS:

I know you care, Wilric. And, it's sweet. But I need to do this.

WILRIC:

OK. You'll break curfew whatever I say. I just don't want you getting hurt. The sentries-

MAGS:

Don't worry, I can avoid the arrows. I'm very good at stealthy.

WILRIC:

It's a long walk up the mountain, up to the Castle. I know I can't stop you. (BEAT) Have something to eat first. With me. In the tavern.

FX: THE LAST SHUTTERS ARE CLOSED. THE STREETS ARE EMPTY AND QUIET. MAGS STOPS.

MAGS:

(SIGH) Alright. Get your uncle to set us a table.

FX: WILRIC HURRIES ACROSS STREET AND OPENS TAVERN DOORS.

WILRIC: (GOING IN)

Great! I will! (CALLING) Hurry up, Mags. Before the monsters come.

FX: TAVERN DOORS CLOSE BEHIND HIM.

MAGS:

It's not the monsters out there that scare me. (TO SELF) It's the one inside.

OPENING THEME.

SCENE 2: INT. VILLAGE COUNCIL HALL

FX: VILLAGERS GATHERING IN HALL. SETTTLING DOWN TO SLEEP, UNCOMFORTABLY.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(SETTLING DOWN, MURMURED AGREEMENT UNDER TRELLA'S SPEECH)

TRELLA:

(ADDRESSING CROWD) I know, I know. This is no good. Everyone huddled in the village hall, like animals. But people don't feel safe in their own beds. We don't know what happened to Broda and the children. Whether it was her or the monsters, we will be safer if we look after each other.

FX: PORROW WALKS OVER TO TRELLA.

PORROW:

(CLOSE) It's ready, Trella.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(UNCOMFORTABLE MUTTERING UNDER FOLLOWING) 'This is no good' 'How can we sleep like this?' (ETC)

TRELLA:

(CLOSE) Thank you Porrow, I'll be through in a moment. (ALOUD) Please, everyone. Settle down. We all want to be able to sleep in our own homes.

PORROW:

(TO ALL) Trella is doing her best.

TRELLA:

We can't keep living in fear. I will change this. I promise you, we will get help.

SCENE 3: INT. TAVERN

FX: QUIET TAVERN ATMOS. PEOPLE CLOSING DOORS, SETTling TO SLEEP, OFF.

WILRIC:
Not hungry?

FX: SCRAPE OF SPOON IN BOWL.

MAGS:
It was good of you to stand me dinner. After everything else you've done.

WILRIC:
I like you, Mags. I want you to stay.

MAGS:
I can't. I came here looking for answers. For the answer. Now I've found the nearest thing I'm going to get... Well, I should stop looking and take it.

WILRIC:
But going out in the dark, when we know those things are out there...

MAGS:
The monsters are why I came to Gokroth [*pron. Gock-roth*].

WILRIC:
They're more dangerous now. I mean, people have gone before. One or two, if they got careless, or wandered too far in the forest. But to come into the village, to steal whole families?

MAGS:
Your people will deal with it. Look, I'm not supposed to say, but your mother has a plan. I helped her and Porrow fix up some technology. A comms unit from one of the wrecks in the marshlands. They're sending a distress call.

WILRIC:
We get no help from strangers.

MAGS:
Dr Maleeva can help me.

WILRIC:
She's the problem! She's the one who makes the monsters!

MAGS:
You don't know that for certain.

WILRIC:

Why would you go to her? She's alien. She can't be trusted.

FX: AWKWARD SILENCE. MAGS GETS UP FROM HER CHAIR.

MAGS:

Goodbye Wilric. (KISSES HIS CHEEK)

FX: MAGS WALKS OUT OF TAVERN.

WILRIC:

Mags – wait. (SITS BACK AND SIGHS)

FX: AFTER DOORS CLOSED. THE DOCTOR STEPS OVER FROM BEHIND.

DOCTOR:

Excuse me?

WILRIC:

(REACTS, INTAKE OF BREATH)

DOCTOR:

I was in the next booth. (SITTING) I heard your friend leave. Is no-one eating this?

WILRIC:

No. No. Go ahead.

FX: DOCTOR PICKS UP A SPOON.

DOCTOR:

(BREATHES IN) Mm. Smells better than it looks. Is she not coming back?

WILRIC:

No. I don't think so. (GETTING UP) I can try one more time-

FX: WILRIC GETS UP TO GO. THE DOCTOR GRABS HIS ARM.

DOCTOR:

Young man, I wouldn't go out there. Stick to your curfew. It's for the best.

WILRIC:

Sorry. I have to go. (PULLING AWAY)

FX: WILRIC HURRIES OUT OF TAVERN. DOCTOR PICKS UP SPOON AGAIN AND DIGS INTO BOWL.

DOCTOR:

Ahh. Shame to waste good... er... (SNIFFS) whatever this is.

SCENE 4: INT. RADIO CHAMBER, COUNCIL HALL

FX: TRELLA AND PORROW ENTER BACK ROOM. WOODEN DOOR CLOSSES ON VILLAGERS SETTling IN HALL (SOME MUFFLED SCENE 2 WILDTRACK).

TRELLA:

Very well. Shall we try again? I have promised.

FX: PORROW FLICKS SWITCHES, CRACKLE AND HUM OF OLD-STYLE CRYSTAL RADIO WARMING UP.

PORROW:

It's working. The girl was right, there's a stronger signal.

TRELLA:

We were too late to save Broda and the others. But this cannot go on. We keep trying until it works.

FX: PORROW ADJUSTS MICROPHONE AND TUNES RADIO.

PORROW:

A message to the stars. We've been trying for weeks, and nothing. Is this really all we have?

TRELLA:

It is.

PORROW:

There may be others who can improve it. Balva is better with her hands. If we ask her-

TRELLA:

(INTERRUPTS) No. We have kept the transmitter secret since we salvaged it. It must stay that way.

PORROW:

Why not tell others? What about Wilric? Your boy is clever.

TRELLA:

I will not give them false hope only to crush it. We have worked out enough of its functions, we cannot give up. Ready to send?

FX: PORROW ADJUSTS RADIO EQUIPMENT - DIALS, CLICKS AND STATIC.

PORROW:

Ready.

TRELLA:

(AHM, INTO COMMUNICATION UNIT) This is the world of Gokroth [pron. Gock-roth]. We live as prisoners of fear. We are asking that someone, anyone, who hears this might have mercy and come to set us free. Monsters infest the forest around our village. All manner of beasts with scales and fur, teeth and claws. And there is a stranger. The silver one, who does unholy work, in her Castle on the mountain. Help us. Please. Set Gokroth free.

FX: RADIO BROADCASTS MORSE-CODE-LIKE Bleeps AND PINGS.

PORROW:

Is anyone up there? Will anybody come?

TRELLA:

I hope so, Porrow. I hope so.

FX: CROSS TO...

SCENE 5: EXT. SPACE/ INT. VARRON'S SHIP

FX: RADIO SIGNALS FROM PREVIOUS SCENE CONTINUE INTO SPACE. A WHOOSH OF ENGINES AS A SHIP APPROACHES.

CROSS TO INSIDE SPACESHIP, AND THE SIGNAL BEING RELAYED VIA RADIO.

VARRON:

Let's see if we can clean up that signal...

FX: VARRON FIDDLES WITH RECEIVER, SUDDENLY THE WARNING BEACON COMES IN LOUD AND CLEAR OVER THE BLEEPES.

MALEEVA: (D, RECORDED MESSAGE, BECOMING CLEAR)

Stay away. All vessels are warned. This is a quarantine area. Stay away. (CUT OFF)

VARRON:

Yes, yes, I know all that. Let's filter you out.

FX: VARRON ADJUSTS RECEIVER, THE SIGNAL AND TRELLEA'S MESSAGE FROM SCENE 2 BECOMES CLEARER.

TRELLEA: (D, BROKEN UP AT FIRST, BECOMING CLEARER)

We are asking that someone, anyone, who hears this might have mercy and come to set us free. (CONTINUES UNDER FOLLOWING UNTIL VARRON CUTS IT) Monsters infest the forests around our village. All manner of beasts with scales and fur, teeth and claws. And there is a stranger. The silver one, who does unholy work, in her Castle on the mountain. Help us. Please. Set Gokroth free.

VARRON:

(OVER MESSAGE) Well, well. The rumours are true. A world of monsters hiding behind this quarantine. Just what my little menagerie needs. A touch of variety, a hint of the exotic, some exclusive attractions.

FX: VARRON CUTS RADIO. ADJUSTS ENGINES, THEN GETS UP AND WALKS ACROSS DECK.

VARRON:

What do you say, chaps, and chappesses? (CHUCKLE) Wakey-wakey...

FX: VARRON ACTIVATES A BUZZING CONTROL. ACROSS THE DECK, CYBERNETIC LIMBS START TO MOVE AS HIS CREATURES RATTLE THEIR CAGES.

'VARRON'S CREATURES' EMIT ELECTRONICALLY DISTORTED GRUNTS, BABBLING — NB, USE FILTERED VERSIONS OF GOKROTH MONSTER SAMPLES, THESE CREATURES SHOULD BE DISTINCT AND MORE CLEARLY CYBERNETIC IN NATURE.

VARRON:

Let's go to Gokroth, and give them a show!

SCENE 6: EXT. MOUNTAIN/ INT. MALEEVA'S LABORATORY

FX: WINDS. THUNDER, RAINFALL. FAINT ROARS OF ANIMALS, DISTURBED BY THE STORM, FAR OFF IN DISTANCE.

CROSS TO INSIDE LABORATORY – A STONE CELLAR ATMOS, MACHINERY HUMMING AND BUZZING.

FOCUS IN ON BLEEPS OF INTERFERENCE, AS MALEEEVA'S EQUIPMENT PICKS UP TRELLA'S SIGNAL AS SHE TOO TUNES INTO IT.

TRELLA: (D)

And there is a stranger. The silver one, who does unholy work-

FX: MALEEVA CUTS OFF THE MESSAGE.

MALEEVA:

(SIGH) If only you knew. (CALLING) Gor!

FX: GOR LIMPS TOWARDS HER, OVER STONE FLOOR.

GOR:

Yes, mistress.

MALEEVA:

Please. Don't call me that.

GOR:

Sorry. Dr Maleeva.

MALEEVA:

The villagers have rigged up a long-range communication device. How is that possible?

GOR:

They scavenge the marshes. Parts from old wrecks come to surface sometimes.

MALEEVA:

Hm. Ingenious. I suppose it can't be helped. At least there's been nothing recent.

GOR:

Gor checks tower every day. Makes sure the quarantine warning still transmitting.

MALEEVA:

(USING CONTROLS) But I need to boost the jamming capacity, to try and suppress this cry for help.

FX: MALEEVA ADJUSTS RADIO CONTROLS.

GOR:

Can I assist?

MALEEVA:

Well, next time you're down in the village, see if you can sniff out the source of this message. Shut it down at source.

GOR:

Yes, mi-[stress]. Dr Maleeva.

FX: MALEEVA FLICKS SWITCHES. WALKS THROUGH LABORATORY TOWARDS A GURNEY WHERE A CREATURE IS SECURED AND SHUFFLING.

GOKROTH MONSTER:

(GRUNTS)

MALEEVA:

So, this is the result of your last supply run?

GOR:

Only one. Found them outside a farm. After curfew.

FX: CHECKS STRAPS.

MALEEVA:

Look at you. Very interesting. (SCANS AND EXAMINES SUBJECT)
You've reverted some way back along the path of mutation.

GOKROTH MONSTER:

(GRUNTS, DAZED) Help me.

MALEEVA:

The features are almost human. (TO GOR) How are the energy arrays?

FX: HUM AND PULSE OF TRANSFORMATION BEAM (THOUGH WE DON'T KNOW IT YET).

GOR:

Fully recharged by the storm. (CROSSING LAB) Gor will activate power cells.

MALEEVA:

Good. Let's start with a low dose.

FX: HUM AND PULSE OF TRANSFORMATION BEAM FX.

GOKROTH MONSTER:

(GUTURRAL, ANIMALISTIC) Let... me... go.

MALEEVA:

I'm sorry. This is for your own good. (CALLING) Gor, increase the power!

FX: HUM INCREASES INTENSITY. CRACKLING 'FRANKENSTEIN' MACHINERY.

GOKROTH MONSTER:

(GUTURAL, ANIMALISTIC) (CRIES IN PAIN)

SCENE 7: EXT. BESIDE VILLAGE FENCE, NIGHT

FX: HIGH ABOVE, SENTRIES WALK OVER WOODEN PLATFORM.

SENTRY 1: (OFF)

All clear?

SENTRY 2: (OFF)

Clear. See you on the next pass.

FX: THEIR FOOTSTEPS ABOVE RECEDE. RUSTLING AS MAGS SNEAKS ALONG FENCE. SHE WORKS A WOODEN BOARD LOOSE.

WILRIC:

(WHISPER) Mags! Wait.

FX: WILRIC APPROACHES STEALTHILY. THEY SPEAK QUIETLY.

MAGS:

What are you doing? You should be inside.

WILRIC:

I had to be sure you made it past the fence. The sentries will shoot on sight.

MAGS:

(EFFORT) I'll be through in a second. I'm more worried about what I'll find in the Castle.

WILRIC:

She isn't even like us. Her skin, it shines like silver.

(WHISPERS) She's alien!

MAGS:

You'd be surprised how many colours are out there in the universe.

WILRIC:

They say Maleeva experiments on the monsters. Twisting them. Making them more terrible. More angry.

MAGS:

Then she's the right person for me to talk to. (EFFORT)

FX: THE BOARD COMES LOOSE, BUT SCRAPES AS IT FALLS.

WILRIC:

Don't go.

MAGS:

Shh!

FX: FOOTSTEPS HURRIEDLY APPROACH ON PLATFORM ABOVE AS A SENTRY RUNS TO THE GATEHOUSE. THEY RAISE A BOW.

SENTRY 1: (OFF)

Hey! Who goes there?

MAGS:

(CLOSE) Dammit.

FX: ANOTHER SENTRY RUNS ALONG PLATFORM ABOVE.

SENTRY 2: (OFF)

(CALLING) It's after curfew. We have orders.

WILRIC:

(CLOSE) They'll shoot you.

MAGS:

(CLOSE) No, they'll shoot you. I can be careful.

FX: MAGS HURRIES ON, WILRIC FOLLOWING.

SENTRY 1: (OFF)

Halt!

MAGS:

Get down! (EFFORT)

FX: FLURRY OF ARROWS. MAGS SHOVES WILRIC INTO THE BUSHES, THEN SHE'S GONE, RACING ANIMAL-LIKE THROUGH UNDERGROWTH.

DOCTOR: (OFF)

(DASHING OVER) Wait! Stop!

FX: THE DOCTOR HURRIES OVER FROM STREET.

WILRIC:

(GETTING UP) It's me! Wilric! Trella's son! (SURPRISE, GRABBED)

FX: THE DOCTOR HELPS WILRIC TO HIS FEET.

DOCTOR:

No harm done, I hope. I did advise you to stay indoors.

FX: BOWS RAISED AGAIN, OFF.

SENTRY 1: (OFF)

What's going on down there?

DOCTOR:

(CALLING) You almost shot the son of your headwoman! You'll be off her Christmas card list if you fire again!

WILRIC:

(CALLING) Sorry. My fault. I... took a wrong step in the dark.

SENTRY 1: (OFF)

Wilric?

DOCTOR:

(CALLING) Don't worry. We're going indoors!

SENTRY 1: (OFF)

Yeah? Make sure you do.

**FX: SENTRIES WALK OFF OVER PLATFORM, AS DOCTOR LEADS WILRIC
BACK TO STREET.**

SCENE 8: EXT. VILLAGE STREET, NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

FX: DOCTOR LEADS WILRIC BACK ACROSS STREET.

WILRIC:

Who are you?

DOCTOR:

Just a visitor. Passing through.

WILRIC:

Another stranger? From the southern farms?

DOCTOR:

I suppose I must be.

WILRIC:

What's that smell? The flowers pinned to your scarf?

FX: THEY STOP OUTSIDE THE TAVERN.

DOCTOR:

Aconitum [*ack-on-eye-tum*]. Sometimes known as wolfsbane. To mask my scent. That's the tricky part about hunting a predator. Not getting hunted in return.

FX: RUMBLE OF THUNDER, PATTERN OF RAIN BEGINS.

DOCTOR:

Ah. Shall we return to the tavern? I need to have a word with your mother.

WILRIC:

She's over at the village hall tonight. The lights are out already. Everyone will be asleep.

DOCTOR:

Yes, it is rather late. It'll wait till morning.

FX: CREAK AS DOCTOR PUSHES TAVERN DOOR OPEN.

SCENE 9: INT. MALEEVA'S LABORATORY

FX: CELLAR ATMOS AS BEFORE. MUFFLED THUNDER AND RAIN OUTSIDE. HUM OF EQUIPMENT, CALMER THAN BEFORE. BLEEP AS MALEEVA STARTS RECORDING.

MALEEVA:

Experiment one-three-six. Two hours after first exposure. The subject is unconscious now. No adverse physical effects. Yet. Strength is remarkable, and recovery shouldn't- [take long] (SHE BREAKS OFF, AS)

FX: CLANG OF DOOR-BELL BEING PULLED, OFF. BLEEP AS MALEEVA TURNS RECORDING OFF.

MALEEVA:

(CALLING) Gor! Will you see to that?

FX: HEAVY FOOTSTEPS HURRY, OFF.

GOR: (OFF, FLOOR ABOVE)

Yes mistress!

MALEEVA:

(SIGH) Who could that be? No-one from the village ever comes here... They know better than that.

FX: SHE STARTS POWERING DOWN EQUIPMENT. BLEEP AS SHE STARTS RECORDING AGAIN.

MALEEVA:

Resume experimental record. Recovery will not take long. Maintain life-sign scans until morning. Then I can confirm stability. The high dose may compromise the metabolism- (STOPS HERSELF) No. I can't think like that. No speculation, only experimental evidence.

FX: BLEEP AS SHE STOPS RECORDING. MALEEVA WALKS TOWARDS STONE STEPS.

MALEEVA:

(TO SELF) (SIGH) Please work. I can't take another failure.

SCENE 10: EXT. CASTLE ENTRANCE

FX: THUNDER, RAIN. MAGS HAMMERS ON CASTLE DOOR AND RINGS BELL AGAIN.

WHOOSH OF FAR-OFF ENGINES AS VARRON'S SPACESHIP PASSES OVERHEAD.

MAGS:

Lights in the sky. Quite a storm. Or is that a- [ship]? (BREAKS OFF AS DOOR UNLOCKED)

FX: UNDER PREVIOUS, FOOTSTEPS APPROACH INSIDE AS GOR ARRIVES AND SLIDES OPEN METAL VIEWING HATCH.

GOR:

Yes? How may I- (STOPS) Oh. It's you.

MAGS:

Hello Gor. I need to see Maleeva.

GOR:

Dr Maleeva is busy.

FX: MALEEVA APPROACHES INSIDE.

MALEEVA: (JUST OFF, INSIDE)

It's alright Gor. Let her in.

FX: GOR UNLOCKS HEAVY CASTLE DOORS AND PULLS THEM OPEN WITH A CREAK.

MALEEVA: (AT DOORS)

So you climbed over my fences again. Come in. You're soaked.

MAGS:

Thank you.

FX: AS DOOR IS OPENED, MAGS ENTERS WITH WET FOOTSTEPS.

MALEEVA: (LEADING HER OFF, INSIDE)

I wouldn't leave an animal out on a night like this.

FX: DOOR IS CLOSED AND BOLTED AGAIN.

SCENE 11: INT. MALEEVA'S LABORATORY

FX: GOR LOPES DOWN SPIRAL STONE STEPS AHEAD OF MALEEVA, LEADING MAGS DOWN TO CELLAR.

GOR: (ENTERING)

This way. Gor will set fire. Make you dry.

FX: HE LIMPS ACROSS STONE FLOOR.

MALEEVA: (ON STAIRS)

You've thought over my offer?

MAGS: (ON STAIRS)

I have.

FX: THEY WALK ACROSS LAB. JUST OFF, THROUGH FOLLOWING GOR IS PILING STICKS INTO A FIRE AND LIGHTING THEM.

MALEEVA: (ENTERING)

And? You've decided?

MAGS:

I want to go over some of the details.

MALEEVA:

Surely it's simple enough? You want my help, or you don't.

MAGS:

Is this where you do... whatever-it-is you do?

MALEEVA:

This is my laboratory.

MAGS:

Guess a cellar keeps things cool. (WALKING ACROSS LAB) What's under this sheet?

FX: MAGS GOES TO LIFT UP COVER. GOR DROPS STICKS, DASHING OVER TO STOP HER.

GOR:

Leave that!

FX: HE PUSHES MAGS AWAY.

MALEEVA:

Alright Gor. She doesn't mean any harm. Come over here, Mags. Get dry.

FX: FIRE STARTS CRACKLING. MALEEVA AND MAGS MOVE CLOSER TO IT.

MAGS:

You do know what they say in the village about you?

MALEEVA:

I'm not one of them. I'd expect them to be suspicious.

GOR:

Dr Maleeva wants only to make their lives better.

MALEEVA:

But that's not your concern. You must be willing to give yourself over completely. To place your trust in me.

MAGS:

Do you know how many times I've heard people say that?

MALEEVA:

Gor. Find some bedding. And light the fire in the big hall. We may as well heat the place if we're hosting.

MAGS:

What makes you think I want to stay the night?

MALEEVA:

I won't throw you out in the storm.

GOR:

But... will you not require Gor's help to wake the subject?

MALEEVA:

I'll handle it. Go. I want to speak to our visitor alone.

GOR:

Very well, mistress.

FX: GOR EXITS UP STONE STEPS.

MAGS:

Is that how I'll end up? A body on your slab?

MALEEVA:

It doesn't always go well. The results are not always what we would wish.

MAGS:

Not what I wanted to hear.

MALEEVA:

But it's the only way I can do what I need to do. To draw out the beast. I have heard of your kind, but never met one.

MAGS:

It used to be predictable. But lately... I hear the wolf all the time. Breathing down my neck.

MALEEVA:

I deal with monsters. That's why I'm here on Gokroth [*pron. Gock-roth*]. But I can offer you no guarantees.

MAGS:

(SIGH) Handing over my life to somebody else... I'm not sure that's what I want to do. I could end up trading one kind of slavery for another.

MALEEVA:

Sleep on it. The couch upstairs is quite comfortable. Or you can lie on the hearth if you prefer.

MAGS:

I'm not an animal.

MALEEVA:

Not at the moment. I have things to do tonight. I can't waste any more time. Decide by morning. Once you leave the Castle, we won't let you in again. And I'll put spikes on my fence.

FX: MAGS GETS UP AND HEADS TOWARDS STONE STEPS.

MAGS:

I'm just not sure. It's part of me after all. It'd be like losing who I am.

MALEEVA:

Then you need to decide if you can live with that.

FX: CLAP OF THUNDER ABOVE.

MUSIC SEGUE AS TIME PASSES TO MORNING.

SCENE 12: **EXT. VILLAGE/ INT. VILLAGE COUNCIL HALL**

FX: EARLY MORNING SOUNDS, AFTER THE STORM. DRIP OF GUTTERS. ALIEN COCKEREL, DOORS AND WINDOWS OPENING. TRELLA STEPS OUTSIDE.

PORROW: (OFF)
(CALLING) Trella?

FX: PORROW HURRIES ALONG STREET TO TRELLA.

TRELLA:
(CALLING) Morning Porrow. (YAWNING) See how low the sun lies. Days are shorter. Our respite between the nights is not long.

PORROW:
(BREATHLESS, ARRIVING) Resha, on the gate. He says there was a stranger asking for you. Late last night.

TRELLA:
What?

PORROW:
He came to answer the call. He came from the stars.

TRELLA:
Can it be true? Has someone come to help us at last?

PORROW:
His manner is strange. I didn't want to alarm the others. The visitor is waiting in my house.

TRELLA:
Show me!

FX: THEY HURRY ALONG STREET.

SCENE 14: **EXT. OUTSIDE CASTLE.**

FX: HEAVY DOOR CREAKS CLOSED AND SLAMS. MAGS HURRIES DOWN STEPS AND ONTO ROCKY PATH.

MAGS:

(TO SELF) I can't... I can't do it.

FX: GOR STEPS OUT FROM UNDER STAIRS

GOR:

You leave? Before the mistress sees you?

FX: HE LOPES UP TO MAGS

MAGS:

I am. Nothing gets past you, eh?

GOR:

You will not let Dr Maleeva work with you?

MAGS:

Work on me, you mean. I saw what was in that lab. I don't want to be an experiment. Something left to die in the night.

GOR:

It is sad. Not every trial succeeds. But the mistress will never give up.

MAGS:

Then the villagers are right to be scared of her. She's obsessed. (GASP, FEELING TRANSFORMATION COMING) Tell her thanks, but no thanks.

GOR:

Is something wrong with you?

MAGS:

Nothing I'm not used to. (SETTING OFF) And if Maleeva can't help, I'm on my own with it. (TWINGE OF PAIN)

FX: MAGS HURRIES OFF ALONG PATH.

GOR:

(CALLING) Mistress will not be happy.

MAGS: (GOING OFF)

(CALLING) Then she can join the club.

SCENE 15: INT. PORROW'S HOUSE

FX: VARRON PACES OVER FLOORBOARDS.

VARRON:
(HUMS TO HIMSELF, JOLLY)

FX: HE PICKS UP A WOODEN BOWL AND TAPS IT WITH A SPOON.

VARRON:
Hmm. Carved bowls. Metal cutlery. Primitive. (BEAT) But the tapestry, that's very fine workmanship.

FX: DOOR OPENS. TRELLA ENTERS.

TRELLA:
I am Trella. I sent the message.

VARRON:
Hello. I received it. I come from the stars in a powerful engine-

TRELLA:
My people heard your spaceship land. We are not as 'primitive' as you might think.

VARRON:
I'm sorry, I should not have assumed. Shall we start over? My name is Varron. You have a problem with monsters. And I am quite the expert when it comes to- (BREAKS OFF)

FX: OUTSIDE, START OF COMMOTION IN SC 16 BEGINS.

TRELLA:
(SIGH) What is this now?

VARRON:
Shall we take a look? One of your monsters perhaps.

FX: TRELLA HURRIES TO DOOR AND GOES OUTSIDE.

TRELLA: (EXITING)
Perhaps. (CALLING BACK) They have never been so bold as to come in daylight.

VARRON: (FOLLOWING)
(TO SELF) This could be just the incentive I need...

CROSS TO:

SCENE 16: EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE (CONTINUOUS)

FX: VILLAGERS RUNNING. MAGS STUMBLES ALONG STREET.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(COMMOTION) Look at her! She came from the Castle!

FX: WILRIC DASHES OVER.

WILRIC:

Mags. Mags? What did she do to you?

MAGS:

(STRUGGLING TO HOLD BACK TRANSFORMATION) Nothing. She... didn't do... anything. Agh! Lock me away!

WILRIC:

What do you mean?

FX: MAGS STUMBLES.

MAGS:

No... It's too late! Agh!

WILRIC:

Here. let me help you- (CRIES OUT)

MAGS:

No! Stay back! (CRY OF PAIN)

FX: TRANSFORMATION FX (AS IN 'THE GREATEST SHOW IN THE GALAXY')

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(CRIES OF ALARM) 'See her eyes!' 'Watch out for the claws!'

WILRIC:

Mags- (CRY OF PAIN)

FX: MAGS LASHES OUT, THROWING WILRIC TO THE GROUND.

MAGS: (FX, TRANSFORMED)

(SNARLS)

FX: TRELLA AND VARRON RUSH OVER.

TRELLA:

Get away from my son!

FX: WOLF-MAGS RUNS AWAY ALONG STREET, SCATTERING VILLAGERS.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(CRIES OF ALARM) 'There's a monster!' 'Monster in the village!'

VARRON:

Interesting. Was that one of your monsters?

FX: TRELLA DASHES OVER TO HELP WILRIC GET UP.

TRELLA:

Wilric? Did it bite you?

WILRIC:

Mother. I'm alright. I hurt my hand when I fell. That's all. Mags would never-

FX: OFF, RUNNING FEET, SMASH OF FENCING.

MAGS: (FX) (OFF)

(ROAR)

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK: (OFF)

(SCREAMS) 'Get out of its way!' 'It's through the fence!' 'It's back in the forest!'

VARRON:

A speedy creature. Lithe and powerful. One for my collection. Headwoman Trella. You called me to Gokroth to help. Let's discuss terms of engagement.

TRELLA:

Everyone knows you are here now. We shall speak before the whole village.

SCENE 17: **EXT. FOREST**

FX: WOLF-MAGS, FULLY TRANSFORMED, RACES THROUGH THE FOREST.

MAGS: (FX)
(RUNNING, PANTING)

FX: SHE STOPS AND SNIFFS THE AIR.

GOKROTH MONSTER: (OFF)
(ROARS)

MAGS: (FX)
(HOWLS)

FX: WOLF-MAGS RACES ON THROUGH FOREST.

SCENE 18: INT. VILLAGE COUNCIL HALL

FX: VILLAGERS GATHER IN COUNCIL HALL. TRELLA LEADS VARRON ONTO PLATFORM AT FRONT.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:
(MUTTERING)

FX: TRELLA RAPS A STAFF ON THE BOARDS FOR SILENCE.

TRELLA:
This man, Varron. He comes from the stars. He is a hunter and a trapper. He claims he can solve our problem. Stop the beasts from the forest, once and for all.

FX: VARRON WALKS OVER PLATFORM.

VARRON:
I can indeed. But there is a price.

TRELLA:
What do you ask?

VARRON:
Expertise such as mine does not come cheap. How much do you want rid of these creatures?

TRELLA:
We want to sleep in our own beds at night. Let our children play in safety.

VARRON:
Very well. This place has a good harvest. I'm running low on supplies myself. And I do have a number of overheads. (BEAT) Let's begin with... half your food store.

TRELLA:
We cannot!

VARRON:
And I'll be back to top up, as required. Unlimited refills, shall we say?

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:
(ERUPTION OF PROTEST)

FX: UNDER COMMOTION, CLICK OF SPOONS PLAYING FROM BACK OF HALL. IT CONTINUES, AS GRADUALLY EVERYONE QUIETENS AND TURNS TO LOOK.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:
(NOTICING DOCTOR, QUIETENING) 'What's that noise?' 'What's he doing?'

DOCTOR:

(STOPPING PLAYING, PUTTING SPOONS AWAY) Spoons are always good for attention. (AHEM) There's no need for you to be held to ransom. I can take care of this.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(MUTTERING) 'Who is he?'

TRELLA:

Please. Do step forward, if you have a counter-offer.

FX: DOCTOR WALKS FORWARD TO PLATFORM.

DOCTOR:

I'll find them for free. But I'll catch them and provide my expert opinion for... a good cup of tea. Perhaps cake.

VARRON:

(AMUSED) You drive a hard bargain, sir.

DOCTOR:

I see no reason to profit from these people's misfortune. Not like some, Mr Varron.

VARRON:

And what, may I ask, is your qualification?

DOCTOR:

I'm the Doctor. My interest in monsters isn't just professional. You might say it's a vocation.

SHORT MUSIC TRANSITION TO:

SCENE 19: **EXT. VILLAGE STREET**

FX: CREAKING AND RATTLING AS ROPES ARE PULLED AND LARGE WOODEN GATES ARE OPENED. THE DOCTOR LEADS THE WAY OUT ALONG DIRT TRACK.

TRELLA:

I wish you luck Doctor. (TO WILRIC) And Wilric, I wish you would reconsider.

DOCTOR:

I appreciate the assistance. But I do work better alone. I'd be quite glad not to place any of your people in danger.

WILRIC:

You'll get lost in there. If you're new to our world, you need guides.

TRELLA:

This isn't a trip to gather gwanberries. Porrow and Balva are quite capable.

WILRIC:

Porrow and Balva haven't been into the forest for months. I have.

TRELLA:

(SIGH) Very well. I'm proud of you, boy. Take care of our guest.

VARRON:

Not taking any weapons, Doctor?

DOCTOR:

I never do. Sorry to undercut you Varron, but Trella made the right decision. (SETS OFF) Au revoir! Shan't be long.

FX: DOCTOR, WILRIC AND COMPANY WALK OFF ALONG TRACK.

TRELLA:

I am sorry we could not engage your services, Varron. Will you depart to the stars again?

VARRON:

I'll stick around, if you don't mind. Your tavern will take my coinage. Gold is gold, whichever system you're in. I'll fetch my things from my ship.

TRELLA:

I cannot stop you. But you should know, Gokroth has few visitors. And they never stay for long.

FX: TRELLA AND OTHER VILLAGERS WALK BACK INSIDE VILLAGE GATES, LEAVING VARRON OUTSIDE. THE GATES ARE CLOSED AGAIN UNDER FOLLOWING.

VARRON:

(TO SELF) Hmmph. No weapons. This 'Doctor' will end up dead. Then they'll be back, begging for my help. But the price will be considerably higher.

FX: HE TURNS ON HIS HEEL AND WALKS OFF, AWAY FROM VILLAGE.

SCENE 20: EXT. FOREST

FX: THEY PUSH THEIR WAY THROUGH OVERGROWN PATHS.

WILRIC:

The rains have been heavy. (EFFORT) It's like the forest wants rid of the paths.

BALVA:

It's monsters I'm worried about, not trees.

PORROW:

Don't worry Balva. (SWOOSHES SCYTHE THROUGH FOLIAGE) I've got my scythe.

DOCTOR:

(SIGH) I said no weapons. All I ask is that if we do find anyone, or anything, you treat them humanely.

PORROW:

They've not done that with us.

FX: RUSTLING IN TREES, FURTHER OFF.

DOCTOR:

Shh.

PORROW:

Monsters?

BALVA:

It isn't dark.

PORROW:

The forest is theirs. They don't care.

DOCTOR:

Come on. Quietly.

FX: RUSTLING GETTING CLOSER. THEY ALL STOP.

WILRIC:

Is something stalking us?

DOCTOR:

Yes.

LIZARD-MONSTER: (OFF)

(HISSES)

DOCTOR:

If anyone wants to turn back. Please do.

BALVA:

Um.

PORROW:

Balva?

FX: SUDDEN CRASH OF UNDERGROWTH. LIZARD-MONSTER CRASHES TOWARDS THEM.

LIZARD-MONSTER: (APPROACHING)

(SNARLS AND ROARS)

PORROW:

It's- it's- a lizard monster!

DOCTOR:

Everybody, run!

FX: DOCTOR AND WILRIC RUN OFF. OUR POV STAYS WITH BALVA AND PORROW RUNNING THE OTHER WAY.

BALVA:

Not that way, Porrow! That way leads- (GRABBED)

FX: BALVA IS SNATCHED AWAY BY LIZARD-MONSTER. PORROW DASHES ON, THEN SLOWS.

PORROW:

(CONFUSED) What, Balva? This is the way out!

FX: PORROW STOPS RUNNING.

PORROW:

(PANTING) Balva?

FX: RUSTLE IN UNDERGROWTH.

PORROW:

Wilric? (BEAT) Anyone?

FX: PORROW TAKES A FEW STEPS. LIZARD-MONSTER EMERGES.

LIZARD-MONSTER:

Human. You. Human.

PORROW:

(EFFORT)

FX: PORROW STRIKES AT IT WITH SCYTHER, LIZARD MONSTER BATS IT AWAY.

PORROW:

My scythe!

LIZARD-MONSTER:

Ha. Useless stick. (HISSES)

FX: LIZARD-MONSTER SLITHERS AT PORROW.

LIZARD-MONSTER:

(ROAR)

PORROW:

(CRY OF TERROR)

FX: THE CRIES ECHO INTO NEXT SCENE:

SCENE 21: **EXT. FOREST CLEARING**

FX: DOCTOR AND WILRIC DASH INTO CLEARING. PORROW'S CRY ECHOES IN DISTANCE.

DOCTOR:
Wilric!

WILRIC:
Did you hear? The others... What happened?

DOCTOR:
They panicked. I only hope they didn't frighten the monsters.

FX: CRUNCH OF LEAVES AND TWIGS AS WOLF-MAGS STEPS THROUGH CLEARING.

WILRIC:
Doctor.

DOCTOR:
They're probably much more scared of us than we are of them.

WILRIC:
I don't think that's actually true. (URGENT) Doctor!

FX: WOLF-MAGS STEPS FORWARD.

MAGS: (FX)
(GROWL)

DOCTOR:
Ah. We didn't lose all the monsters, then.

WILRIC:
It's right behind you. Teeth. Claws. Walk towards me, slowly.

DOCTOR:
What about if I turn around instead, and say hello. (BEAT)
Hello, Mags.

MAGS: (FX)
(GROWL)

DOCTOR:
It's me. The Doctor. Remember? The D-

FX: WOLF-MAGS SNARLS AND POUNCES FORWARD. DOCTOR FALLS.

WILRIC:
Doctor!

FX: WOLF-MAGS SNARLS AND BATS WILRIC AWAY.

DOCTOR:

Aaagh!

MAGS: (FX)

(HOWLS)

END OF PART ONE

PART TWO

REPRISE

FX: WOLF-MAGS STEPS FORWARD.

MAGS: (FX)
(GROWL)

DOCTOR:
Ah. We didn't lose all the monsters, then.

WILRIC:
It's right behind you. Teeth. Claws. Walk towards me, slowly.

DOCTOR:
*What about if I turn around instead, and say hello. (BEAT)
Hello, Mags.*

MAGS: (FX)
(GROWL)

DOCTOR:
It's me. The Doctor. Remember? The D-

FX: WOLF-MAGS SNARLS AND POUNCES FORWARD. DOCTOR FALLS.

WILRIC:
Doctor!

FX: WOLF-MAGS SNARLS AND BATS WILRIC AWAY.

DOCTOR:
Aaagh!

MAGS: (FX)
(HOWLS)

CONTINUES INTO:

SCENE 22: EXT. FOREST CLEARING

*FX: DOCTOR SEARCHES HIS POCKETS FOR A BIG ANTIQUE POCKETWATCH,
AS WILRIC TRIES TO GRAB WOLF-MAGS.*

MAGS: (FX)
(WILDTRACK SNARLING)

DOCTOR:
(SCRABBLING IN POCKETS) Wait a minute... wait a minute!

WILRIC:

Get off him! (CRIES OUT)

FX: GROWLING WOLF-MAGS THROWS WILRIC OFF. DOCTOR SITS UP, CLICKING OPEN WATCH ON CHAIN. TICKING UNDER FOLLOWING.

DOCTOR:

I said wait a minute. That's all you need. Time. Or a pocket watch. Leave the boy alone!

FX: WOLF-MAGS PROWLs TOWARDS DOCTOR.

MAGS: (FX)

(LOW GROWLS)

DOCTOR:

You don't want to do this. I know you. It's me. The Doctor. I've been looking for you.

FX: GROWLS FROM WOLF-MAGS, CALMING. SHE PACES TOWARDS HIM. TICKING FROM ANTIQUE POCKET WATCH AND CLINK OF CHAIN AS DOCTOR SWINGS IT.

DOCTOR:

That's it. Watch the watch. See it swing. Shiny, shiny, eh?

MAGS: (FX)

(CALMING GROWL)

DOCTOR:

Time to be calm. Time to think. Time to remember who you are...

FX: WOLF-MAGS PACES AROUND THE DOCTOR.

MAGS: (FX)

(GROWLS) Time...

WILRIC:

What are you doing? Is that- [Mags]??

DOCTOR:

(INTERRUPTS) Shh. No distractions. She's getting there. Aren't you, Mags?

SCENE 23: **EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE**

FX: VARRON DRIVES HIS VEHICLE INTO THE SQUARE — LIKE A FUTURISTIC CIRCUS TRAILER. STOPS ENGINE. DOORS OPEN AND VARRON CLIMBS DOWN.

VARRON:
(JOLLY HUMMING)

FX: TRELLA APPROACHES.

TRELLA:
Varron? What are you doing? You cannot leave that vehicle there!

VARRON:
This is no mere vehicle, madam. This is a transport of wonder! A caravan of delights!

TRELLA:
It's an obstruction.

VARRON:
Would you begrudge me a living? You called me to your world. Then you balk at the idea of paying for my services. Although I'm sure that is only postponement of the inevitable.

TRELLA:
You do not need this... 'caravan'. There are rooms in the tavern, if you want to stay.

VARRON:
(CHUCKLES) Oh, this capacious carriage is not my abode!

TRELLA:
So what's inside?

FX: VARRON WALKS ROUND THE TRAILER AND UNFASTENS IT.

VARRON:
All in good time. (EFFORT, UNCOUPLING TRAILER) I can earn my keep while I wait. Did I mention I had a show? A travelling show. And it may also serve as a demonstration of the skills you have so far doubted.

TRELLA:
I don't understand.

FX: VARRON GOES TO BACK, ACTIVATES ELECTRONIC LOCKS AND OPENS SHUTTERS.

VARRON:

(EFFORT) You will. When you gaze upon the contents of my trailer.

FX: RATTLE OF SHUTTERS OPENING.

TRELLA:

What are they?

VARRON:

My menagerie.

TRELLA:

You bring more monsters to our village!

VARRON:

Do not fear, madam. Although these creatures are awesome indeed, collected from the darkest regions of the Hundred Systems. I risked life and limb to capture and tame them.

TRELLA:

Tame? Their skulls are cased in metal. Is that armour on their bodies?

FX: VARRON ACTIVATES HIS CREATURE CONTROL DEVICE WITH BEEPS AND A PULSATING HUM.

VARRON:

Not exactly. But it means they are entirely under my control. Shall I wake them?

FX: THE CYBERNETICALLY-ENHANCED CREATURES START TO STIR, MAKING THEIR DISTINCTIVE CYBERNETIC SOUNDS AS THEY WAKE.

SCENE 24: **EXT. FOREST CLEARING**

FX: RUSTLE OF TWIGS AND LEAVES, AS MAGS SINKS TO FOREST FLOOR.

DOCTOR:
Feeling human again?

MAGS:
(RECOVERING) Doctor. What are you doing here?

DOCTOR:
Following you. To quite a few different planets along the way.
How's your shuttle?

MAGS:
Wrecked. It was falling to pieces when I got here, but
someone's finished the job.

DOCTOR:
Hmm. Somebody here really doesn't like tourists.

WILRIC:
Wait a minute... (CONFUSED) You two know each other?

DOCTOR:
Mags and I have history. Though I suspect it's been longer for
me than it has for her.

WILRIC:
That doesn't even make sense.

MAGS:
You'll have to get used to that if the Doctor's around. Wilric,
can you give us a moment?

DOCTOR:
It would be good to know if anything else is heading our way.

WILRIC:
(GOING OFF) Alright. I'll keep a lookout.

FX: WILRIC HURRIES INTO FOREST.

DOCTOR:
(CALLING) Don't go too far.

MAGS:
(CALLING) And be careful!

DOCTOR:
Charming young man. You like him?

MAGS:

He likes me. He has his moments.

DOCTOR:

So, why are you here, Mags? The Psychic Circus lost its appeal?

MAGS:

I had to leave. My changes were getting more and more unpredictable. It was getting dangerous for the others. And the audience.

DOCTOR:

That's always a risk when someone as special as you leaves their home-world. Biorhythms missing their beat.

MAGS:

I didn't leave Vulpana out of choice.

DOCTOR:

Of course. You were stolen away. And now you can't go back. You carry the scent of the universe on you.

MAGS:

You know my people. Anything 'other', they rip it to shreds. I don't fit in there. But I don't fit anywhere else either. I'm a freak in every world.

DOCTOR:

No. Not a freak. You're simply unique. And uniquely qualified to talk to the creatures who live here.

MAGS:

I thought I might get help from someone used to dealing with my kind. Monsters. But I don't trust Maleeva.

DOCTOR:

So you came out here instead. To throw yourself on the mercy of the beasts. I'd been waiting to see what you might do.

MAGS:

You said you'd been looking for me. Why?

DOCTOR:

Every so often, I've the urge to revisit unfinished business. It's an urge I'm getting more and more these days. Perhaps that's what happens when you're old.

MAGS:

You, Doctor? You're not old.

DOCTOR:

You have no idea. But I'm glad I found you. (BEAT, THEN PITCHED UP – HE'S HEARD WILRIC EAVESDROPPING) Wilric. Glad you heeded my advice. You didn't go far, did you? You can come out now.

FX: RUSTLE AS WILRIC EDGES IN FROM TREES.

WILRIC:

Is it true, Mags? You want the monsters to kill you?

MAGS:

I don't know. It seems like the only thing left. If there's no hope for me, you're better off leaving me to them.

DOCTOR:

(SIGH) Perhaps you should meet the monsters.

WILRIC:

What?

DOCTOR:

Wilric. I don't suppose you saw anything on your little recce?

WILRIC:

I think there's a trail. Looks like a well-worn path. But no-one from the village ever comes this far.

DOCTOR:

So it's well-worn by something else. (LEADING OFF) Come along!

MAGS:

You're not leaving me? You just said-

DOCTOR:

(INTERRUPTS) I think you may be able to communicate with these so-called monsters. So, yes, it's a good idea for you to find them, and for us to follow.

FX: THEY ALL START TO WALK THROUGH THE TREES.

WILRIC:

Is it?

DOCTOR:

You and I can observe, young man. Let's see what they can teach us.

SCENE 25: INT. MALEEVA'S LABORATORY

FX: MALEEVA STOMPING ABOUT, ANGRILY THROWING EQUIPMENT DOWN.

MALEEVA:

They've done what?

GOR:

Gone into the forest. Hunting monsters. Gor hid by fence and saw.

MALEEVA:

(PACING ANGRILY) Strangers! Too many strangers. What's the point of setting up a quarantine if everyone ignores it? Why can't I be left alone to work in peace?

GOR:

Sorry mistress.

FX: MALEEVA STOPS STOMPING.

MALEEVA:

It's not your fault. I need to speak to them. I'm going to the village.

FX: MALEEVA PICKS UP EQUIPMENT AND CROSSES THE LAB.

GOR:

In daytime? They won't listen. They never listen.

FX: MALEEVA SETS OFF UP THE STEPS.

MALEEVA:

Then we'll have to make them.

SCENE 26: **EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE**

FX: VARRON SETTING UP HIS CARNIVAL STALL.

VARRON:
(JOLLY POM-POMMING)

FX: HE USES HIS CONTROL DEVICE AND THE CREATURES BECOME AGITATED. HYDRAULICS OF CYBERNETIC LIMBS AND SOME SYNTHETIC YELPS, GROWLS AND WHIMPERS.

VARRON:
Let's warm you up. Get the punters interested.

FX: VARRONS STARTS UP SOME CARNIVAL-STYLE MUSIC.

VARRON:
(CALLING) Roll up, roll up! For one show only, you can take a look for free!

FX: DOORS OPEN AND CLOSE, OFF. SOME VILLAGERS APPROACH.

VARRON:
See Varron's marvellous monsters. See how I have them perform amazing feats to order!

FX: CYBERNETICALLY ENHANCED CREATURES RUN AND LEAP.

VARRON:
Acrobatics! Trials of strength and skill. Come and see my creatures!

FX: SMATTERING OF APPLAUSE.

SCENE 27: **EXT. MONSTER'S FOREST 'VILLAGE'**

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS AGITATEDLY STOMPING ABOUT.

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:

(GRUNTS, AGITATED GROWLS, CONTINUE UNDER FOLLOWING)

FX: CROSS TO EDGE OF FOREST AS DOCTOR, MAGS AND WILRIC CREEP CLOSER.

WILRIC:

(CLOSE) They have houses.

MAGS:

(CLOSE) More like huts. That one's just pieces of bark, leaning on a tree.

DOCTOR:

(CLOSE) Why wouldn't they build shelters? Animals feel the cold at night too. They don't all have fur.

MAGS:

(CLOSE) Is this where they live? Like a village?

WILRIC:

(CLOSE) There are quite a lot of them.

BEAR-MONSTER:

(ROARS, THEN GUTTURAL) Gather. Everyone!

DOCTOR:

(CLOSE) That one appears to be in charge. Reminds me of a friend of mine... Winnie.

BEAR-MONSTER:

(GUTTURAL) Go. Go. Inside.

DOCTOR:

(CLOSE) More Pooh than Churchill, though.

MAGS:

(CLOSE) What are you talking about, Doctor?

DOCTOR:

Shh. They're up to something.

BEAR-MONSTER:

(COMMANDING) Inside. Now. You all. Listen.

FX: MONSTERS SCRAMBLE INTO HUT.

WILRIC:

(CLOSE) They can speak! I didn't realise they could talk to one another!

DOCTOR:

(CLOSE) No? You only ever had to stop and listen.

MAGS:

(CLOSE) Should I still go on ahead? Just walk in?

DOCTOR:

(CLOSE) Hm. They're all agitated about something. Perhaps we should review our strategy.

WILRIC:

(CLOSE) They're meeting in that big hut. Like some kind of village council. Are they civilised?

DOCTOR:

(CLOSE) You thought they were inarticulate beasts. Let's see what other assumptions we can explode.

FX: LAST OF MONSTERS HAS SHUFFLED INTO HUT.

MAGS:

(CLOSE) (SNIFFS) I think they're all inside. I'm not picking up any other scents.

DOCTOR:

(CLOSE) Then let's move closer. Wicker isn't terribly good sound insulation. (EDGING FORWARD) Ears and minds open, mouths closed.

FX: THEY CREEP CLOSER.

SCENE 28: INT. MONSTER COUNCIL HUT

FX: A PARLIAMENT OF MONSTERS GATHERING.

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:

(GRUNTS, ROARS)

LIZARD-MONSTER:

(HISSES) Humans come. Hunt us.

BEAR-MONSTER:

(GROWL) What. Is. Law?

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:

(NONCOMMITTAL GRUNTS, ROARS)

BEAR-MONSTER:

(ANGRY) What. Is. Law? (BEAT) No — kill! No kill! No kill human!

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:

(ANGRY GRUNTS, ROARS)

LIZARD-MONSTER:

(HISSES) Bad human. Bad human hurt us.

FX: BEAR ROARS AS THEY ALL SETTLE.

BEAR-MONSTER:

No! Obey law always. No kill.

FX: BEAR-MONSTER PACES AROUND HUT.

BEAR-MONSTER:

Now, you. You bring food.

FX: MONSTERS TIP UP CONTAINERS OF FOOD — FRUIT, VEGETATION SCATTERS.

BEAR-MONSTER:

Eat. All eat.

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:

(SNUFFLING, GRUNTING AS THEY GRAB FOOD)

BEAR-MONSTER:

Good fruit. Good leaves.

LIZARD-MONSTER:

(HISSES, GRUMBLING) Meat. Want meat.

BEAR-MONSTER:

No. No kill!

FX: FEEDING ACTIVITY CONTINUES, AS-

CROSS TO OUTSIDE HUT:

SCENE 29: EXT. OUTSIDE FOREST HUT (CONTINUOUS)

FX: INSIDE HUT, FEEDING ANIMAL NOISES UNDER.

DOCTOR:

Does that sound like they want to kill you?

WILRIC:

Well, yes.

MAGS:

No. I didn't realise what they really were.

DOCTOR:

I don't believe anybody has. They're forming a society. Making their own rules. Starting with a vegetarian diet!

MAGS:

Maybe I could live with them out here. Maybe they wouldn't just kill me.

DOCTOR:

Is that really what you want, Mags?

MAGS:

I can't live with people. I wouldn't- [trust myself]

LIZARD-MONSTER: (INSIDE)

(HISSING)

FX: KERFUFFLE INSIDE HUT, LIZARD-MONSTER THROWS DOWN FRUIT.

WILRIC:

Shh. That scaly one's still not happy!

LIZARD-MONSTER: (INSIDE)

Pah! Humans bad. Humans kill!

BEAR-MONSTER: (INSIDE)

Obey law. Or punish.

LIZARD-MONSTER: (INSIDE)

Want eat human. (HISS)

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK: (INSIDE)

(ANGRY GRUNTS, ROARS)

BEAR-MONSTER: (INSIDE)

No! Obey law! Punish now!

DOCTOR:

Ah. Papa bear's asserting his authority. They take their law seriously.

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS PILE ON LIZARD AND FIGHT INSIDE HUT.

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK: (INSIDE)

(GRUNTS, ROARS, FIGHTING UNDER FOLLOWING, SOME GUTTURAL CRIES OF 'Punish!')

LIZARD-MONSTER: (INSIDE)

(SNARLS)

DOCTOR:

Yes, probably not the best moment for you to step in, Mags.

MAGS:

(GASPS, HOLDING BACK TRANSFORMATION)

WILRIC:

Look at her, Doctor. Her eyes. She's changing again!

MAGS:

(GASP) Doctor. I feel the anger. Aggression. It's spilling out...
(GASP) waking the wolf. (DEEP BREATHS UNDER FOLLOWING)

DOCTOR:

Stay calm, Mags. Breathe. (TAKING HER ARM) Wilric, help me. We have to get her away from here.

FX: DOCTOR AND WILRIC GRAB MAGS AND HURRY HER AWAY

SCENE 30: **EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE**

FX: VARRON PLAYING CARNIVAL MUSIC AS BEFORE. MORE VILLAGERS IN THE AUDIENCE, APPLAUDING.

VARRON:

Thank you, thank you. Good people of Gokroth, you are most kind.

TRELLA: (APPROACHING)

Varron! It's almost curfew. You should pack up.

VARRON:

Very well. But it seems a shame. There's still quite a crowd out here. You must be starved for entertainment.

FX: CURFEW HORNS SOUND, OFF (AS SCENE 1).

TRELLA:

That's the signal. (CALLING) Go on home, all of you.

FX: VARRON STOPS MUSIC. PEOPLE START TO MOVE OFF.

VARRON:

(CALLING) Ladies and gents. I'm afraid time is my enemy. Do come back tomorrow, to see more amazing feats. But I will need to charge for the next show.

FX: VARRON USES HIS CONTROL DEVICE. THE CREATURES FALL INTO LINE AND QUIETEN.

TRELLA:

It is unnerving. Like your beasts are under some kind of spell.

VARRON:

There's no witchcraft here. Merely science. Their brains have cybernetic implants. Along with the various mechanical physical enhancements. I control them all with this device.

FX: BUZZ OF CONTROLS, THE CREATURES WALK INTO TRAILER IN ORDERLY FASHION.

TRELLA:

Such strength, all under your command.

VARRON:

Quite. At my will, they march, jump, or even dance. They have no voice unless I allow. This evening has just been a taster. Tomorrow, I will put on a real show – for paying customers.

TRELLA:

It is impressive.

VARRON:

... unless there is something else you would rather I be doing?

TRELLA:

We are still waiting to hear from the Doctor. He promised to deal with our monsters.

VARRON:

Of course he did. (BEAT) Are you going to retrieve his remains in the morning? Or will you give it a few more days?

TRELLA:

He offered help, and he asked for no payment.

VARRON:

Ah, the issue of price once again. You're already paying a high one. Living in fear.

FX: GOR AND MALEEVA APPROACH, OFF.

MALEEVA: (OFF)

(CALLING) What is this? Where did these creatures come from?

GOR: (OFF)

They must be from that ship, mistress.

VARRON:

Well, well, well. What have we here? Not one of yours from the look of her. And the other... He would not be out of place in my menagerie.

TRELLA:

It is the scientist. From the Castle.

FX: MALEEVA AND GOR ARRIVES.

MALEEVA:

Trella. We need to talk.

TRELLA:

Get out of my village, alien.

FX: VARRON STEPS BETWEEN THEM.

VARRON:

Dr Maleeva, I presume? I've heard so much about you.

MALEEVA:

And who, may I ask, are you?

SCENE 31: EXT. FOREST CLEARING

FX: DOCTOR, WILRIC AND MAGS SCRAMBLE AWAY FROM HUT WHERE MONSTERS ARE FIGHTING.

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK: (FURTHER OFF)
(GRUNTS, ROARS, FIGHTING CONTINUES INSIDE HUT UNDER FOLLOWING)

FX: TRANSFORMATION FX, LOW AND BUILDING UNDER FOLLOWING.

MAGS:
(STRAINED) I can't stop it. I'm changing.

DOCTOR:
Hold on. You can do it.

MAGS: (FX, TRANSFORMING)
No! (GASP) This is what I mean Doctor. I've lost control.
(EFFORT)

FX: MAGS PUSHES THEM BOTH AWAY, ONTO FOREST FLOOR.

WILRIC:
(REACTS) No!

DOCTOR:
(REACTS) Oof!

MAGS: (FX)
Run. Both of you. (SNARLS)

FX: WOLF-MAGS TRANSFORMATION COMPLETES. DOCTOR APPROACHES, TAKING OUT HIS WATCH AGAIN

DOCTOR:
Wilric, you can go if you like. But I'm not leaving Mags here.
(HOLDING UP THE WATCH AGAIN) Remember the watch?

FX: WOLF-MAGS SNARLS AND BATS WATCH AWAY – IT HITS THE FLOOR AND BREAKS.

WILRIC:
She smashed it. She's... a wolf!

DOCTOR:
Don't worry. I can always pop back to Louis the Fourteenth and get another.

MAGS: (FX)
(ROAR)

DOCTOR:

Let's try a different tack. (COMMANDING) You know me. I protected you. I'm one of your pack.

MAGS: (FX)

(GROWL, LESS AGGRESSIVE)

FX: WOLF-MAGS PACES AROUND DOCTOR AND WILRIC.

DOCTOR:

That's it. Wilric too. Get our scent. Remember.

WILRIC:

Doctor... The noise.

FX: FURTHER OFF, THE MONSTERS START TO LUMBER OUT OF HUT.

LIZARD-MONSTER: (OFF)

Humans here! (ROAR)

DOCTOR:

Come on. Time for the pack to run. (EFFORT)

FX: DOCTOR, WILRIC AND MAGS RUN INTO UNDERGROWTH.

CROSS BACK TO:

SCENE 32: EXT. OUTSIDE FOREST HUT (CONTINUOUS)

FX: AS MONSTERS SPILL OUT, STILL FIGHTING. THE BEAR-MONSTER ROARS.

BEAR-MONSTER:

Stop. Listen. All of you.

FX: SCUFFLING STOPS.

BEAR-MONSTER:

Something here. Someone.

FX: IN DISTANCE, WOLF-MAGS HOWLS.

BEAR-MONSTER:

(SNIFFS) This way.

FX: BEAR-MONSTER CRASHES OFF IN UNDERGROWTH

BEAR-MONSTER: (GOING OFF)

Follow! Obey law!

FX: OTHER MONSTERS START TO FOLLOW, ANIMAL NOISES.

LIZARD-MONSTER:

(SNARL, GRUMBLING TO SELF) Kill it. Eat it.

FX: LIZARD-MONSTER FOLLOWS TOO.

SCENE 33: **EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE**

FX: VARRON IS OPENING HIS TRAILER SHUTTERS, PRESSING KEYPAD TO OPEN CAGES, USING HIS CONTROL DEVICE TO MOVE CREATURES ABOUT, CYBERNETIC MOVEMENTS.

VARRON:

A woman of science, eh? Yet you haven't helped these people.

MALEEVA:

I am trying. What can I do if they won't listen?

VARRON:

Really. From what I hear, you're doing quite the opposite.

MALEEVA:

You're an outsider. You wouldn't understand.

TRELLA:

You are the outsider, Scientist. You should not be here. Get back to your Castle.

GOR:

The mistress only wants to help.

VARRON:

(CHUCKLE) Look at this one! Misshapen and ugly. One of your experiments?

MALEEVA:

Gor is my assistant. He probably knows more about xenobiology than you.

VARRON:

Oh, I don't claim to be an expert. My knowledge is practical, enough to get by. I shan't put away my toys just yet, if you'd like a closer look.

FX: VARRON OPERATES HIS CONTROL DEVICE. ALL CYBERNETIC MOVEMENT HALTS. MALEEVA WALKS AMONG THE CREATURES.

MALEEVA:

These creatures are so docile. What have you done to them? Their skulls – the metal implants. What are they? Cyborgs?

VARRON:

I have dipped my toes into several pools of technology. You know of life beyond this world. You don't look native. That blue-grey sheen to your skin, one of the Gadalaxian clusters?

MALEEVA:

It doesn't matter where I'm from. I must be able to get on with my work without any interference.

TRELLA:

This is all your fault. It's your experiments that made those monsters!

FX: GOR LURCHES FORWARD TO PROTECT MALEEVA.

GOR:

Leave her alone! Get away from the mistress.

VARRON:

How loyal. How obedient. (TO MALEEVA) But I could improve him, you know.

MALEEVA:

It's all right, Gor. I can defend myself, as Trella knows. You-

VARRON:

Varron.

MALEEVA:

Mr Varron. I have a disruptor pistol, for self-defence. I hope I don't need to show it to you.

VARRON:

And I have an army of cyborgs. (BEAT) But we are simply fellow travellers. Crossing paths, exchanging knowledge, before we both go on our way.

MALEEVA:

You still haven't explained why you've brought these creatures here.

VARRON:

Would you like to see how I control them? Sing, my creatures! Sing!

FX: VARRON OPERATES HIS DEVICE AND HIS CREATURES STAND IN UNISON – CYBERNETIC LIMBS WHIRR AND CLANK. AGAIN, WE CAN FILTER DISTORTED SAMPLES OF THE GOKROTH MONSTER CRIES, TO GIVE AN EFFECT OF ELECTRONIC HOWLS, AS THEY OBEY VARRON.

SCENE 34: **EXT. FOREST**

FX: B/G RUNNING WATER OF STREAM. CLOCKWORK WINDING AND TICKING, AS THE DOCTOR SENDS HALF A DOZEN CLOCKWORK TOYS OFF THROUGH UNDERGROWTH.

WILRIC:

What was that?

DOCTOR:

Clockwork mice, all with our scent. It should confuse them a little.

MAGS: (FX)

(GROWL) Mouse. Prey.

DOCTOR:

Now now, Mags. Stay with me.

FX: SPLASH AS THE DOCTOR STEPS INTO STREAM.

DOCTOR:

Come on. If we cross the stream, there's an even better chance they'll lose our trail.

FX: WILRIC HELPS WOLF-MAGS DOWN TO STREAM.

MAGS: (FX)

(SNARL) Water! No!

WILRIC:

(EFFORT) She doesn't want to go in.

FX: DOCTOR PICKS UP A STICK.

DOCTOR:

(WHISTLING) Mags? Here! Fetch! (EFFORT, THROWING)

FX: STICK LANDS ACROSS THE STREAM.

MAGS: (FX)

(GROWLS AND SNARLS)

WILRIC:

I don't think she liked that.

FX: TRANSFORMATION FX.

DOCTOR:

Wait. She's returning. I can see it in her eyes.

MAGS: (RETURNING TO HUMAN)

(GASPS) Doctor... Please... don't ever throw a stick for me again.

DOCTOR:

Indignation. A very civilised emotion. I'm sorry. But that proves it, you can control the wolf.

FX: IN DISTANCE, GOKROTH MONSTERS CRASH THROUGH FOREST.

DOCTOR:

Unfortunately, they may have set aside their differences for a common pursuit. Us.

FX: THEY SPLASH ACROSS STREAM.

MAGS:

(RUNNING THROUGH STREAM) Wilric. Can you get us back to the path?

WILRIC:

(RUNNING) I think so. But I need to be able to see the stars.

DOCTOR:

(RUNNING) That's what I like to hear. The trees thin out up ahead. Come on, over we go.

FX: THEY SPLASH ACROSS AND CLIMB OUT. IN DISTANCE, GOKROTH MONSTERS GET CLOSER.

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK: (OFF)

(ROARS, GROWLS AS THEY HUNT)

LIZARD-MONSTER: (OFF)

Humans!

BEAR-MONSTER: (OFF)

Follow.

SCENE 35: EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE

FX: VARRON'S CREATURES DANCE TO THE CARNIVAL MUSIC.

MALEEVA:

This is a parlour trick. It is sick.

VARRON:

From what these people say, you are the one carrying out sick experiments. Sick and dangerous.

MALEEVA:

What do they know? I'm doing this for good.

VARRON:

Oh, we all believe that don't we?

FX: UNDER FOLLOWING, AS VARRON'S CARNIVAL CONTINUES, THERE ARE SNATCHES OF GOKROTH MONSTER CRIES (WILDTRACKS FROM SCENE 34)

MALEEVA:

Still. You've lost your audience. They've all gone indoors.

GOR:

Mistress. Strange cries. In the forest. Do you hear the beasts?

MALEEVA:

Varron, shut up your noise, will you?

VARRON:

Ah. I wonder... (USES HIS CONTROLS)

FX: VARRON PRESSES CONTROL AND HIS CREATURES STOP. IN DISTANCE, SOUNDS OF GOKROTH MONSTERS IS CLEARER UNDER FOLLOWING.

TRELLA:

I knew it. We have tempted the night! They're coming closer. (HEADING OFF) I must make sure everyone obeys the curfew.

VARRON:

I spy an opportunity. (CALLING) Trella! Clearly your Doctor has failed!

TRELLA:

I don't know what he's done. I have to protect my people!

VARRON:

The beasts are angry and they're on the move. The Doctor must have stirred them up.

TRELLA: (GOING OFF)

Alright. Do what you must. We will pay what is needed!

FX: TRELLA DASHES OFF.

VARRON:

(CALLING) I will take my troop into the forest. I will capture your monsters.

MALEEVA:

You have no idea what you are doing. You don't know this place like I do. You've no concept of the danger!

VARRON:

So why don't you come along?

MALEEVA:

What?

VARRON:

I'm offering you a place by my side. Surely your scientific curiosity is piqued, if nothing else.

MALEEVA:

Oh, I'm coming along. You, and your army of cyborgs couldn't stop me. Gor. Ready the laboratory. Charge the cells. We'll be needing everything.

GOR:

I will prepare the equipment, Dr Maleeva.

FX: GOR STARTS TO GO, MALEEVA CATCHES HIM.

MALEEVA:

(A THOUGHT) And Gor. (CLOSE) Before you leave the village, remember the transmitter.

GOR:

(CLOSE) Yes, Dr Maleeva.

FX: GOR HURRIES AWAY.

VARRON:

Look at him. I bet he frightens the children, even in a place surrounded by terrors!

MALEEVA:

Do not mock Gor. He serves me well. Without him, I... well, I would be lost.

VARRON:

(LEADING OFF) We all rely on our own monsters. Come along.
(USES CONTROLS) My creatures! There is to be sport tonight, in the forest!

FX: VARRON'S CREATURES ACTIVATE AND START MOVING OFF.

SCENE 36: EXT. STREET OUTSIDE RADIO CHAMBER

FX: DOORS SLAMMING, SHUTTERS CLOSING THROUGHOUT VILLAGE. CURFEW HORN SOUNDS IN DISTANCE. TRELLA HURRIES ALONG.

TRELLA:
(CALLING) Curfew! Everyone, inside!

GOR: (OFF, INSIDE)
(EFFORT)

FX: SMASHING OF RADIO, OFF INSIDE.

TRELLA:
(STOPPING) What is that?

FX: MORE SMASHING. TRELLA PUSHES OPEN DOOR.

TRELLA:
(REALISING) The radio. No, no!

FX: TRELLA DASHES INSIDE.

SCENE 37: **INT. RADIO CHAMBER**

FX: CRACKLING AND SPARKING OF WRECKED EQUIPMENT.

GOR:

(EFFORT, TO SELF) There. Job is done, mistress.

FX: TRELLA ENTERS.

TRELLA:

My radio... You fiend! I will beat you all the way to our gates!

FX: SHE RAISES A STAFF.

GOR:

Do not hurt Gor!

FX: GOR GRABS STAFF, THEY STRUGGLE.

TRELLA:

(STRUGGLING) You and your mistress should stay in your castle. Not come down here and interfere.

GOR:

(STRUGGLING) We help! We only help! (EFFORT)

FX: TRELLA IS THROWN AGAINST WALL, KNOCKED SENSELESS.

TRELLA:

(OOF)

FX: GOR CHECKS ON TRELLA.

GOR:

No, no, no. (SHAKES HER) Wake up. Wake up.

TRELLA:

(FAINT MOAN)

FX: GOR BACKS OUT, PANICKING.

GOR:

Gor sorry, sorry. (HURRYING OUT) Only want to help. Not hurt!

FX: TRELLA SLUMPS, GOR RUNS OFF.

SCENE 38: **EXT. FOREST TRAIL**

FX: VARRON'S CREATURES MARCH ON AHEAD. BUZZ AND HUMS AS VARRON DEMONSTRATES HIS CONTROL DEVICE.

VARRON:

You see my controls? Efficient and simple.

MALEEVA:

What have you done to them? Some kind of cortex graft?

VARRON:

An integrated circuit with receiver and direct control. Some physical enhancements too. Here, take a look.

MALEEVA:

What frequencies are you using? You know this world has... particular energies of its own?

VARRON:

(SHOWS CONTROLS, THEN SNATCHES BACK) Ah-ah-ah – look but no touching. The emitter boosts itself as required. I've never yet encountered any signal interference I cannot blast through.

MALEEVA:

That must drain a lot of power. What happens when it runs out? Your army just collapses?

VARRON:

I maintain my own supply. And for emergencies, I carry spare power-packs.

MALEEVA:

It's still incredibly dangerous. Beaming instructions direct to a brain.

VARRON:

My control box works, that's all you need to know. And it's all my own design. Perhaps you'd like to invest?

MALEEVA:

Where did a cheap ringmaster like you find this kind of technology?

VARRON:

We all have a colourful past, Dr Maleeva. I'd be intrigued to know more of yours.

MALEEVA:

That's not something I want to talk about. Not to you, anyway.

VARRON:

A little mutual trust goes a long way. Especially if we are to work together.

MALEEVA:

Work together?

VARRON:

What else are we going to do, once I've captured all your monsters?

MALEEVA:

Oh no. That won't happen. I'm here to make sure you don't damage them.

VARRON:

Damage? You're starting to sound like that Doctor fellow.

MALEEVA:

What Doctor? Doctor who?

FX: ONE OF VARRON'S CREATURES GIVES A CYBERNETIC YELP. WHIRR OF CONTROLS, AND THE CREATURES ALL COME TO A SUDDEN STOP.

VARRON:

Ah. What have they found?

FX: VARRON AND MALEEVA WALK OVER TO A COUPLE OF BODIES. VARRON TURNS THEM OVER WITH HIS FOOT.

MALEEVA:

Villagers.

VARRON:

Dead villagers. The two who set out with the Doctor and the boy. You think your forest brutes deserve mercy now?

FX: MALEEVA CROUCHES BY BODIES AND EXAMINES THEM.

MALEEVA:

Claw marks. Bites. (SIGH) They were only obeying their nature.

VARRON:

Then it's time we caught these animals. (USES HIS CONTROL)

FX: VARRON'S CYBERNETIC CREATURES START MOVING AGAIN.

VARRON:

Shall I set them loose? Show you what my creations are truly capable of?

MALEEVA:

What if I say no?

VARRON:

(CHUCKLES) You're right. It doesn't matter what you want. You're just here to watch the show.

FX: HE USES HIS CONTROLS AGAIN. CYBERNETIC WHOOPS AND HOWLS, AS VARRON'S CREATURES BURST INTO FOREST.

SCENE 39: **EXT. MOUNTAIN PATH**

FX: SCRAMBLING, RUNNING OF GOR ALONG ROCKY MOUNTAIN PATH.

GOR:

(GABBLING, TO SELF) So sorry, mistress. Gor did job, but got caught. Hurt woman. Gor must get laboratory ready.

FX: GOR SLOWS. HE STOPS AND LISTENS TO FAR-OFF HOWLS OF GOKROTH MONSTERS IN FORESTS.

GOR:

The monsters are angry. Be safe mistress. Be safe, my love.

FX: GOR LOPES ONWARD ALONG PATH.

SCENE 40: INT. RADIO CHAMBER, VILLAGE HALL

FX: CRACKLING AND SPARKING OF WRECKED EQUIPMENT. TRELLA STIRS.

TRELLA:

(COMING ROUND) Unng. My... my radio. (GASP)

FX: GETTING UP, TRELLA PULLS AT WIRES. THEY SPARK.

TRELLA:

Our message! Our only hope! Destroyed!

FX: SHE GOES TO THE DOOR.

TRELLA:

Curfew or no curfew, that monster will pay for this. (CALLING)
Resha! Call the guards!

FX: TRELLA HEADS OUT.

SCENE 41: EXT. FOREST

FX: DOCTOR, MAGS AND WILRIC SCRAMBLE THROUGH FOREST, EMERGING INTO CLEARING.

DOCTOR:

Where now?

WILRIC:

Er... This way. (BEAT) No this.

DOCTOR:

And I thought the TARDIS's sense of direction was poor.

MAGS:

Give him a chance Doctor. He's scared. We're on the right track now. I can tell.

WILRIC:

Shh. No. They've got our trail.

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK: (OFF)

(GROWLS, ROARS)

DOCTOR:

Ah. They seem to be making up ground.

MAGS:

Stop! What's that? Up ahead?

FX: MARCHING OF VARRON'S CREATURES, WITH THEIR CYBERNETIC MOVEMENTS. THEY STOP. AS ONE, THEY HOWL A CYBERNETIC HOMING CALL.

THIS SETS OFF THE GOKROTH MONSTERS INTO AGITATED GRUNTING BEHIND.

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:

(ANIMAL GRUNTING, THREATENING)

WILRIC:

What are they? They're not from Gokroth [*pron. Gock-roth*].

DOCTOR:

Mutant cybernetic hybrids. Poor things. I'd say they were in pain.

MAGS:

Look at their skulls. Metal plates.

DOCTOR:

(DARK) Yes. Someone hasn't been kind.

FX: VARRON'S CREATURES ADVANCE TOWARDS THE DOCTOR, MAGS AND WILRIC.

WILRIC:

Er, Doctor. They're coming this way.

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS EMERGE FROM FOREST BEHIND THEM.

BEAR-MONSTER:

(ROARS) Our world. Ours.

LIZARD-MONSTER:

(HISS) Metal things, get away.

DOCTOR:

Your forest dwellers are feeling territorial.

WILRIC:

We're trapped. No way forward. No way back.

DOCTOR:

Between the devil and the deep blue sea.

FX: MUCH GROWLING AND GRUNTING FROM GOKROTH MONSTERS, AND CYBERNETIC HOWLS IN RESPONSE, AS THE TWO SIDES SQUARE UP.

MAGS:

They're going to fight. And we're caught in the middle.

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS ROAR AND HOWL, AS VARRON'S CREATURES DO THE SAME IN RESPONSE.

END OF PART TWO

PART THREE

REPRISE:

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS EMERGE FROM FOREST BEHIND THEM.

BEAR-MONSTER:

(ROARS) Our world. Ours.

LIZARD-MONSTER:

(HISS) Metal things, get away.

DOCTOR:

Your forest creatures are feeling territorial.

WILRIC:

We're trapped. No way forward. No way back.

DOCTOR:

Between the devil and the deep blue sea.

FX: MUCH GROWLING AND GRUNTING FROM GOKROTH MONSTERS, AND CYBERNETIC HOWLS IN RESPONSE, AS THE TWO SIDES SQUARE UP.

MAGS:

They're going to fight. And we're caught in the middle.

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS ROAR AND HOWL, AS VARRON'S CREATURES DO THE SAME IN RESPONSE.

CONTINUES INTO:

SCENE 42: EXT. FOREST

FX: DOCTOR AND FRIENDS BACK AWAY.

DOCTOR:

I'm sure we can settle this like civilised monsters.

WILRIC:

Can we go into the trees?

MAGS:

(SNIFFS) Doctor. I smell metal... There are more. Coming around. They're surrounding them.

DOCTOR:

They have tactics. That suggests a general.

WILRIC:

Oh no.

MAGS:

They're behind them too! They're attacking!

FX: VARRON'S CREATURES BURST FROM FOREST AND ATTACK GOKROTH MONSTERS. MUCH SCRABBLING OF CLAWS AND TEETH, MATCHED BY CYBERNETIC LIMBS DEFENDING. SOON AFTER THE FIGHT STARTS, AN ELECTRICAL CRACKLING BEGINS, AS VARRON'S CREATURES START STUNNING THE MONSTERS INTO SUBMISSION.

BEAR-MONSTER:

(ROARS) Defend! (ROAR OF PAIN)

LIZARD-MONSTER:

(HISS) Kill! (CRY OF PAIN)

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:

(ROARS OF ANGER, BECOMING YELPS OF PAIN)

WILRIC:

What's happening?

DOCTOR:

Those implants aren't just controls. They're weaponised.

FX: ELECTRICAL CRACKLING ALL AROUND.

DOCTOR:

Electrical charges.

MAGS:

They're killing them!

FX: VARRON AND MALEEVA EMERGE ALONG THE FOREST TRACK.

VARRON:

Not at all! Merely stunning them!

MALEEVA:

I certainly hope so. (DRAWS WEAPON) Varron, stop this.

VARRON:

Let's not fall out. Not when I'm the one with a cybernetic army. Fire that gun and they'll tear you to pieces. Hello again Doctor. Would you and your friends like to join us?

FX: DOCTOR, MAGS AND WILRIC HURRY OVER.

DOCTOR:

Mr Varron. And you must be the infamous Dr Maleeva.

MALEEVA:

I don't believe I've had the pleasure. Doctor...?

DOCTOR:

That's right.

MALEEVA:

And Mags. You decided against taking up my offer.

MAGS:

Things have changed. Let's say I haven't decided anything yet.

FX: THE LAST OF GOKROTH MONSTERS COLLAPSE. VARRON'S CYBERNETIC CREATURES MARCH TO ATTENTION.

DOCTOR:

Well. You've certainly made short work of Gokroth's [*pron. Gock-roth's*] monster problem. I hope you're telling the truth and none of them are harmed.

VARRON:

Of course. Now all I need do is stack them. Tag them, and chain them, ready for transportation. My creatures can carry two at a time.

FX: VARRON'S CYBERNETIC CREATURES COLLECTING UP THE MONSTERS' BODIES. DISTORTED EFFORT SOUNDS.

SCENE 43: **EXT. OUTSIDE CASTLE**

FX: TRELLA MOUNTS STEPS, WITH SENTRIES CARRYING PIKES. SHE HAMMERS ON DOOR.

TRELLA:
Open up!

FX: INSIDE, GOR COMES TO DOOR. OPENS IT SLOWLY.

GOR:
You. Why are you here? At night?

TRELLA:
To arrest you! Guards!

FX: A SCUFFLE AS GUARDS RUSH THE DOOR AND GRAB GOR.

SENTRIES:
(EFFORT)

GOR:
(STRUGGLING) No! This is not permitted! Not allowed! Let Gor go!

TRELLA:
Tie his hands! Your mistress isn't here to protect you now!

GOR:
(CRIES OUT, BEING BOUND)

TRELLA:
You broke the terms! We left you alone long enough. You and your mistress, creating abominations.

GOR:
Dr Maleeva does good work! Good work!

TRELLA:
Now you've gone too far! You attacked me! Destroyed our hope! Bring him!

FX: SENTRIES DRAG GOR ALONG MOUNTAIN PATH.

GOR:
Gor is sorry! Sorry!

TRELLA:
We'll put you in the square for all to see! The time has come. The people of Gokroth will stand against the monsters!

GOR:

No! You are monsters! You are!

TRELLA:

Knock him out. He'll be easier to carry.

SENTRIES:

(EFFORT)

FX: A SENTRY CLUBS GOR.

GOR:

No-no-no- (GASP, THUMPED)

FX: GOR SLUMPS TO GROUND.

SCENE 44: **EXT. FOREST TRAIL**

FX: UNCONSCIOUS MONSTERS, OCCASIONAL ANIMALISTIC SNUFFLES AND SNORES, AS VARRON'S CREATURES STOMP AROUND. DOCTOR EXAMINES THEM.

DOCTOR:

You seem to have been as good as your word. The forest-dwellers are all unconscious. But unharmed.

VARRON:

I've never seen anything quite like them.

DOCTOR:

They're not a result of natural evolution, that's for sure. Genetic splicing? Physical transformation? Traces of human, in the eyes. Intelligence. But mixed with many other species. Hybrids.

VARRON:

You know your xenobiology. Perhaps I'll gain another asset on this trip.

DOCTOR:

You want me to join you? Enslaving more unfortunate creatures? You'll have a very long wait.

VARRON:

Such moral high ground. You should spare some outrage for Maleeva. That splicer of genes. The people say she made these beasts. That she experiments on them. Your examination proves it.

DOCTOR:

I'd heard the rumours. I've been in the village for a few days, keeping a low profile. According to them, she's a cross between Dr Moreau and Dr Frankenstein.

VARRON:

I'm not familiar with their work. Are they local?

DOCTOR:

Not to this star system. In fact, not many people are. A beacon warning 'Here Be Monsters' is enough to keep most ships away.

VARRON:

It also draws some of us in. In search of the bizarre. Isn't that right, Doctor? You and I are kindred spirits.

DOCTOR:

I doubt that.

VARRON:

Where does she fall on your moral scoreboard?

DOCTOR:

I've yet to question Dr Maleeva on her motives.

VARRON:

Now, I need to make sure these sleeping beauties are safely manacled when they wake up. I'll lead them through the village in triumph. Let's see what they're willing to pay then.

DOCTOR:

Is that all you're interested in? Your fee?

VARRON:

Oh no. Some appreciation would be welcome too. Maybe a statue. A small one.

FX: VARRON OPERATES CONTROLS AND HIS CREATURES START FIXING MANACLES TO SLEEPING MONSTERS.

DOCTOR:

I'll keep an eye on them. If you don't mind.

VARRON:

Just so long as you don't try and keep the credit.

CROSS TO:

SCENE 45: EXT. FOREST

FX: CLANKING OF CHAINS BEING ATTACHED, OFF.

WILRIC:

I feel almost sorry for them.

MAGS:

Quite a sensitive soul, aren't you?

WILRIC:

They're just different, I suppose. Who's to say they don't have as much right to live here as we do?

MAGS:

You were here first. Right? Or was it them?

WILRIC:

(UNCERTAIN) I'm sure mother once told me.

MAGS:

You did say they took people. Families disappearing.

WILRIC:

Yes, yes. (BEAT) Although...

MAGS:

What?

WILRIC:

(WHISPER) There are rumours... Some people say she's the one taking people. Up to the Castle. To use in her experiments.

MAGS:

Maleeva? Does anyone have proof?

WILRIC:

Shh. She's coming over.

FX: MALEEVA COMES OVER AND SITS AMONG LEAVES.

MALEEVA:

We should get some rest. Varron has everything under control.

WILRIC:

Has he really done what he said? Freed us from the monsters?

MALEEVA:

I'd be wary of any claims made by Varron, or that Doctor.

MAGS:

You're wrong. I trust the Doctor.

MALEEVA:

Interesting. I thought you were ready to trust me. You still could.

MAGS:

(IGNORING HER) We should rest. It's a long walk back to the village.

FX: THEY SETTLE ON FOREST FLOOR.

MUSIC SEGUE. TIME PASSES.

SCENE 46: EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE

FX: MORNING SOUNDS, COCKEREL, CARTS PUSHED, OFF. GOR STIRS, LOCKED IN CAGE.

GOR:

(MOANS) Oh no. Gor locked up. (STRAINS) Gor in cage. Prison of wood. (GASP, AS)

FX: HE GRABS BARS, SQUELCH OF VEGETABLES THROWN AT HIM.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(YOUNGSTERS LAUGH, MOCKING) e.g. 'Here, breakfast, monster!' 'Hope you like fruit!'

GOR:

(SPLUTTERING) Food is rotten. Leave Gor alone! (MUMBLES) Gor wants to help. Just to help.

FX: YOUNGSTERS' FOOTSTEPS RUN OFF. GOR SHUFFLES ABOUT, JANGLING LOCKPICKS IN POCKET.

GOR:

Hmm. Stupid villagers. They took Gor's freedom. But they did not take away Gor's tools.

SCENE 47: EXT. TRAIL OUTSIDE VILLAGE GATES.

FX: VARRON LEADS HIS CREATURES ALONG TRAIL, WITH GOKROTH MONSTERS IN CHAINS.

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:
(PITIFUL GROWLS)

FX: SENTRIES HURRY OVER PLATFORM.

SENTRY 1:
(CALLING) What's all this?

VARRON:
(CALLING) Open your gates. Call your head woman!

SENTRY 1:
Go. Fetch Trella.

FX: A SENTRY RUNS OFF, DOWN STEPS FROM PLATFORM.

VARRON:
Tell her, I've kept my word! Varron has caught your monsters.
What would you have me do with them?

SCENE 48: EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE

FX: VILLAGERS EMERGING INTO STREET. TRELLA HURRIES ALONG.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:
(CONFUSED, AGITATED MUTTERING)

TRELLA:
What is this?

SENTRY 2:
(CALLING) Trella! You must come!

TRELLA:
The cage on the square is empty. Where is that misshapen fiend?

FX: SENTRY 2 RUNS UP TO TRELLA.

SENTRY 2:
(ARRIVING) What?

TRELLA:
He got out! Did anyone see how?

SENTRY 2:
No, come to the gate. The showman is back. He caught them! He caught them all!

FX: SENTRY HURRIES OFF. TRELLA FOLLOWS.

TRELLA:
(HURRYING) What do you mean, 'all'? Is it true? Our nightmare is over!

SCENE 49: EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE

FX: ROPES PULLED, GATES OPEN AS BEFORE. VARRON LEADS CHAINED MONSTERS INTO THE SQUARE. THE DOCTOR, MAGS, WILRIC AND MALEEVA FOLLOW.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(ANGRY CRIES) 'Monsters!' 'Kill them!'

MAGS:

(CLOSE) Doctor. We've got to do something. It's going to be a massacre.

DOCTOR:

(CLOSE) I don't think Varron will let that happen.

VARRON:

(ALoud) Hush now. Some order please! Kill them? That would be a waste.

DOCTOR:

(CLOSE) You see?

FX: TRELLEA HURRIES OVER.

TRELLEA:

Varron, Doctor? You have both returned! (LOOKS AROUND) Wilric? Where is-

FX: WILRIC PUSHES FORWARD.

WILRIC:

(GABBLING) Mother! The monsters killed Porrow and Balva. They can talk! They've a village of their own!

TRELLEA:

Hush now. (RELIEF) Thank you, Doctor, for bringing back my boy.

VARRON:

(AHEM) Actually. The Doctor was leading him into mortal peril until I arrived. Shall we discuss my fee again?

MAGS:

You're a charlatan. A mercenary. Nothing but- [scum!]

DOCTOR:

(INTERRUPTS) Let's not start arguing. Look after Wilric, the poor boy's exhausted. (CLOSE) Mags. I need you to be calm. Stay out of trouble.

MAGS:

(CLOSE) I want to help.

DOCTOR:

(CLOSE) You will. When the time's right.

MAGS:

Right. Come on Wilric. You need some of your uncle's broth.

FX: MAGS LEADS WILRIC AWAY.

TRELLA:

Thank you, girl. Look after him.

DOCTOR:

(TO ALL) The important thing now is to decide what to do with these creatures.

TRELLA:

Yes. Are they quite safe?

VARRON:

Stunned and restrained. Although I could of course release them at the touch of a button.

MALEEVA:

No! I've had enough of this. You might not trust me, Trella-

TRELLA:

I do not!

VARRON:

No, no. Let them speak. What does your alien scientist think? What does the Doctor?

DOCTOR:

I think this world's seen quite enough of your show.

MALEEVA:

Give me the forest monsters. I will take them to my Castle.

VARRON:

I bet you will. To make more! Clones! Breeding! This Maleeva is a monster maker! I am a monster hunter.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(CHEERS)

VARRON:

What does that make you, Doctor?

DOCTOR:

Someone with sympathy for all living creatures.

TRELLA:

Enough! There has been enough sabotage and dissent. These beasts are in restraints, thanks to Varron. Anyone who sympathises with monsters cannot be allowed to walk free. Seize these two!

FX: SENTRIES APPROACH AND GRAB DOCTOR AND MALEEVA.

DOCTOR:

You're making a mistake. (REACTS, GRABBED)

MALEEVA:

Let me go! (STRUGGLING) I must get back to my Castle. I have experiments running!

FX: SENTRIES DRAG THEM OFF.

TRELLA:

I should have done this a long time ago. Lock them up!

VARRON:

Good to see firm leadership.

FX: VARRON ACTIVATES HIS CONTROLS. HIS CYBERNETIC CREATURES START TO MOVE. HE GOES TO HIS TRAILER AND PULLS OPEN SHUTTERS.

VARRON:

Let me demonstrate the same. How's this for a spectacle?

FX: VARRON'S CREATURES START CARRYING THE MANACLED, UNCONSCIOUS GOKROTH MONSTERS INTO CAGES IN THE TRAILER.

VARRON:

My creatures can carry yours to the cages. Give me a little while, I'll have every last one under lock and key. Safely in my caravan.

TRELLA:

That is... (TAKEN ABACK AT THE SIGHT) I will see to the prisoners. (HURRIES OFF)

SCENE 50: **INT. TAVERN**

FX: MAGS HURRIES TO WINDOW.

WILRIC:

What's happening out there?

MAGS:

They dragged away Maleeva, and the Doctor. Now Varron's got his cyborgs loading the monsters onto his trailer. I should do something!

FX: MAGS PACES OVER FLOORBOARDS.

WILRIC:

You can't stop the whole village on your own. And you can't get angry, because... well. You know. And then they'll kill you.

MAGS:

Is that what you people do? Kill anything different?

WILRIC:

You're not one of us. You don't understand.

MAGS:

I can't just hide away in here.

WILRIC:

Stay out of it. I told you Maleeva was no good.

MAGS:

At least the Doctor's safe in your jailhouse for now.
(REMEMBERING HIS WORDS) But when's the right time? (SIGH) We haven't eaten since yesterday.

FX: THEY CROSS TAVERN AND RUMMAGE ON SHELVES.

WILRIC:

(SEARCHING) Let's see what uncle has back here. Bread, gorra leaves... What else?

FX: BARRELS KNOCKED OVER, OFF. THEY STOP.

MAGS:

(QUIETER) What's that? Is there someone in the store-room?

WILRIC:

(CLOSE) Not uncle. Everyone's out in the square.

MAGS:

(CLOSE) Not everyone. Wait here. I'll take a look.

FX: MAGS PUSHES DOOR SLOWLY OPEN AND CREEPS THROUGH.

SCENE 51: INT. JAILHOUSE

FX: DOCTOR AND MALEEVA SHOVED INSIDE CELL, ONTO STONE AND STRAW.

DOCTOR & MALEEVA:
(REACT) Oof!

FX: HEAVY DOOR SLAMS AND BOLTS SLIDE ACROSS.

TRELLA:
We usually use this when folk get rowdy in the tavern. The bolts are sturdy enough.

FX: DOCTOR GOES TO BARS OF CELL DOOR, CALLING FROM INSIDE.

DOCTOR:
I warned you, Trella. This is a terrible mistake.

TRELLA:
No, Doctor, you made the mistake. When you tried to trick us. You were working with her all along.

MALEEVA:
I assure you he's not!

TRELLA:
You won't escape here as easily as your pet did his cage.

MALEEVA:
Gor? What did you do with him?

TRELLA:
Nothing he didn't deserve.

MALEEVA:
If you've harmed him in any way-

FX: UNDER PREVIOUS, VARRON COMES TO THE OUTER DOOR, HE KNOCKS ON IT OSTENTATIOUSLY.

VARRON: (JUST OFF)
(COUGH FOR ATTENTION) Shall we talk over my proposal? Put it to the people?

TRELLA:
Very well. (WALKS OUT)

DOCTOR:
(CALLING) I can guess what you're planning, Varron. It's cruel and inhuman.

VARRON:

Well, they are monsters. It's a fitting solution! (LAUGHS, AS HE HEADS OFF)

SCENE 52: INT. TAVERN STOREROOM

FX: MAGS CREEPS THROUGH STOREROOM.

MAGS:

I know you're hiding.

FX: SHE TAKES A FEW STEPS.

MAGS:

(BREATHES IN) I'm getting grain... ale... rotting fruit. And...

GOR:

(EFFORT) No!

FX: SUDDENLY, BARREL UPTURNED AS GOR MAKES A BREAK FOR IT. MAGS LEAPS OVER BARREL.

MAGS:

(EFFORT) Gor! I'd know your scent anywhere.

FX: SLAM AS GOR ESCAPES THROUGH BACK DOOR, MAGS DASHES AFTER HIM.

FOLLOW THEM OUT INTO:

SCENE 53: EXT. ALLEY OUTSIDE (CONTINUOUS)

FX: GOR STUMBLES, FALLS TO GROUND.

GOR:
(CRIES OUT)

FX: DOOR THROWN OPEN, MAGS SPRINGS ONTO HIM.

MAGS:
Got you!

FX: SHE PINS HIM DOWN.

GOR:
(SCARED) Agh! Wolf girl! Do not bite Gor!

MAGS:
What? Course I'm not going to bite you.

FX: SHE LETS HIM UP.

MAGS:
What are you doing here?

GOR:
Special mission, for mistress. Break radio. But villagers took Gor. Locked Gor in wooden cage. Threw fruit.

MAGS:
You mean, they arrested you for sabotage and put you in the stocks.

GOR:
Gor is clever. Gor has his tools. Gor can open any lock.

FX: JANGLE OF LOCKPICKS.

MAGS:
You should get out of here. Go home. The mood they're in now-

GOR:
Where is the mistress?

MAGS:
They locked her up. Along with the Doctor. Hold on-

FX: GOR HURRIES OFF ALONG ALLEY.

GOR:
Told you. Locks I can open. Which is the building?

MAGS:

No, you can't. (HURRYING AFTER HIM) Gor — wait!

FX: THEY HURRY ALONG ALLEYWAY.

SCENE 54: INT. JAILHOUSE

FX: MALEEVA THUMPS DOOR.

MALEEVA:

(EFFORT) It's no good. No-one's coming.

DOCTOR:

Shh. I'm trying to listen.

MALEEVA:

You'd be better employed digging a tunnel. I need to get back.

FX: SCRAPE OF STONE WALL.

MALEEVA:

This brickwork is poor. Look, it's crumbling. (EFFORT)

FX: MALEEVA SCRAPES BRICKS AGAIN.

DOCTOR:

They'll be gathering for Varron's proposals. I wish we could hear.

MALEEVA:

We can guess what he'll say.

DOCTOR:

Varron, yes. But there's a chance the people might not be ruled by their fear, by dread of the unknown. They may still make the right choice.

MALEEVA:

Have you met the villagers?

FX: CROSS TO:

SCENE 55: EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE

FX: MONSTERS RATTLE CHAINS. VILLAGERS GATHER.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:
(MUTTERING)

TRELLA:
We were wrong to doubt you, Varron. We should have taken your first offer.

VARRON:
I can't blame you. But actually, this may now work out better for everyone.

TRELLA:
How so?

VARRON:
I will reduce my fee to one third of your stores.

TRELLA:
What?

VARRON:
And I will remove these slumbering monsters from your world. My own creatures stand guard on them inside my trailer.

TRELLA:
This is... generous.

VARRON:
They'll grant my show a new lease of life. Fitted with implants. Brains controlled. Expand my menagerie. What do you say? Do we have a deal?

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK: (OFF)
(CRIES OF ALARM, CONSTERNATION) 'Monster!' 'Monster in the village!'

FX: OFF, GOR RUNNING ALONG NEXT STREET, OPENING DOORS.

GOR: (OFF)
Where is the mistress? This place? This one?

FX: MAGS HURRIES BEHIND HIM.

MAGS: (OFF)
Gor! You can't do this!

TRELLA:
That thing! That saboteur! Get after it!

VARRON:

Look! It scurries towards your jailhouse. To free its accomplices!

FX: TRELLA AND VILLAGERS ADVANCE ON GOR WITH PITCHFORKS, FARM TOOLS. GOR AND MAGS DODGE, AND RUN THROUGH THE SQUARE PAST VARRON. TRELLA AND VILLAGER PURSUE.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(ANGRY CRIES) 'Get him!' 'Stop that monster!'

GOR:

Let me go! Gor will not harm you! Stupid villagers! (CRY OF PAIN)

FX: GOR RUNS OFF, CHASED BY VILLAGERS AND SENTRIES.

MAGS:

Leave him! Can't you see he's harmless?

FX: LASH OF ELECTRIC-CHARGED LASSO, WHIPPING OUT AND CATCHING MAGS.

MAGS:

(CRIES OUT)

VARRON:

Got you!

FX: CRACKLING OF ELECTRO-LASSO.

MAGS:

(STRUGGLING) What is this?

VARRON:

(EFFORT, HOLDING HER) Electro-lasso. Don't want you caught by the mob.

MAGS:

(GASPS) Stop them! Varron. You need to stop them! (CRIES OUT AS SHE'S DRAGGED BY LASSO)

CROSS BACK TO:

SCENE 56: INT. JAILHOUSE (CONTINUOUS)

FX: COMMOTION OUTSIDE, OFF, CONTINUES. MALEEVA DASHES OVER TO THE DOCTOR.

MALEEVA:

What's happening out there!

DOCTOR:

I can't see. It doesn't sound good. (TO SELF) Wherever you are, Mags, hold on.

FX: GOR'S RUNNING FEET, OUTSIDE.

GOR: (OFF)

(RUNNING) Mistress? Where are you?

MALEEVA:

Gor! Is that Gor!

SENTRY 1: (OFF)

Kill the monster! Kill it!

FX: FLURRY OF ARROWS, OFF.

GOR: (OFF)

Mistress! I am coming for- y-aaargh! (CRIES OUT)

MALEEVA:

No! Gor! Answer me! (QUIETER) No.

DOCTOR:

Events are slipping out of control. (FRUSTRATED) And there's nothing we can do!

CROSS BACK TO:

SCENE 57: **EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE**

FX: VILLAGERS CARRY GOR'S BODY OFF.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK: (OFF)

'It's dead!' 'The monster's dead!'

MAGS:

(IN PAIN) What did you do? Agh! What... did... you do?! (CRIES OUT, TRANSFORMATION BEGINS)

FX: TRANSFORMATION FX.

VARRON:

Now you, girl. You are interesting. (EFFORT)

FX: CRACKLING AS HE REELS HER IN.

MAGS: (FX, TRANSFORMING)

(ANGRY) Let me go!

VARRON:

Don't struggle and it won't hurt.

MAGS: (FX)

(STRUGGLES, SNARLING)

VARRON:

A very handy restraint, for wrangling all manner of beasts. The plasma-charge encourages co-operation rather than inflicting any real damage.

FX: WOLF-MAGS TRANSFORMATION COMPLETES. SHE HOWLS.

VARRON:

And we don't want you damaged. Let me get a closer look.

MAGS: (FX, TRANSFORMED)

(HOWL, SNARLS)

VARRON:

(MARVELLING) Magnificent.

FX: TRELLA APPROACHES.

TRELLA:

(APPROACHING) We disposed of the- (SEEING MAGS) Another one! That girl! Living in our midst!

VARRON:

Wait.

FX: VARRON PULLS LEASH.

VARRON:

No need for more bloodshed. I'll take her too.

FX: WOLF-MAGS SNARLS. VARRON THROWS HER INTO TRAILER. HE CLANKS THE CAGE DOOR CLOSED AND CLIMBS ONTO VEHICLE.

VARRON:

As part of my fee.

TRELLA:

You're going?

FX: VARRON WALKS BACK HIS TRAILER AND OPENS CAB DOOR.

VARRON:

I'll be back. For my supplies. Until then, enjoy your village, free of monsters!

FX: HE CLIMBS IN AND STARTS ENGINE. STAY WITH VARRON INSIDE HIS TRAILER CAB. WOLF-MAGS STRUGGLING AND SNARLING BEHIND.

VARRON:

(TO MAGS) My ship's not far. I'll soon bring you to heel, my dear.

FX: TRAILER DRIVES OFF.

MUSIC SEGUE. TIME PASSES.

SCENE 58: INT. JAILHOUSE

FX: MALEEVA SCRAPING AT THE STONWORK.

MALEEVA:

(HOLDING BACK TEARS, EFFORT) It's no use. I can't shift these bricks.

FX: DOCTOR GOES OVER AND STOPS HER.

DOCTOR:

(GENTLY) Maleeva. Leave it. Your fingers, they're bleeding.

MALEEVA:

I've got to do something.

DOCTOR:

We have to accept that we're trapped. But things will change. We only have to wait. (BEAT) You see?

FX: UNDER PREVIOUS, OUTER DOOR OPENS. WILRIC ENTERS ALONG STONE PASSAGE.

WILRIC: (APPROACHING)

I thought you'd want to know.

FX: DOCTOR GOES TO BARS OF CELL.

DOCTOR

Wilric. What's happening out there?

WILRIC:

Varron has taken Mags.

DOCTOR:

Oh no.

WILRIC:

And the sentries killed her creature.

MALEEVA:

Gor? Poor, innocent Gor.

WILRIC:

I brought you food. Here. I'll slide the bowls through.

FX: WILRIC PUSHES BOWLS UNDER THE BARS.

DOCTOR:

Thank you.

MALEEVA:

(TO WILRIC) Your people murdered him. You're all fools! Blind fools!

FX: MALEEVA KICKS THE BOWLS, SPOONS CLATTER.

DOCTOR:

Wilric. Let us out. I can help.

WILRIC:

Sorry Doctor. It's gone too far. Everyone's set on getting rid of that Castle of hers. We'll burn that hellhole to the ground.

MALEEVA:

You can't! All my work is there. Years of research!

WILRIC:

Shut up, alien!

DOCTOR:

There's no need for this. Free us.

WILRIC:

If we ask, Varron will take her away too. She's alien. The monster-maker will no longer be our problem.

MALEEVA:

I never was.

DOCTOR:

Sh. Maleeva.

WILRIC:

Goodbye, Doctor. Mother needs my help. (SETTING OFF, STOPS)
I'll let you know if Mags returns.

FX: WILRIC HURRIES OFF ALONG STONE CORRIDOR.

DOCTOR:

That's it. We need to escape. Now.

MALEEVA:

How? You said we're trapped?

DOCTOR:

That was before we had spoons.

FX: DOCTOR PICKS UP SPOONS.

SCENE 59: **EXT. OUTSIDE VARRON'S SHIP**

FX: VARRON PULLS UP HIS VEHICLE AND OPENS DOOR. HE DRAGS MAGS OUT ON HER ELECTRO-LEASH.

VARRON:
Fascinating. The ride seems to have calmed you.

FX: MAGS CLIMBS OUT.

MAGS:
Don't count on it. (STRUGGLING) Let me off this leash, and find out.

FX: VARRON LEADS HER ALONG TOWARDS HIS SHIP.

VARRON:
You're looking slightly less ferocious, but not enough for that. You have control over the transformation?

FX: MAGS STUMBLES, AS THEY WALK ON.

MAGS:
No. I really don't.

VARRON:
Vulpana? Am I right?

MAGS:
Why doesn't it surprise me that you know my world? A lot like you came and went.

VARRON:
Curiosity is a very human instinct. Some of us simply help others to satisfy that urge.

MAGS:
I know. I was carted off and put on display.

VARRON:
So few of you left now. So little opportunity to experiment. You don't even need moonlight to transform.

MAGS:
Something's wrong with me. I've travelled too much.

FX: THEY REACH THE SHIP AND STOP UNDER FOLLOWING.

VARRON:
All the more reason to install a brain implant. I could probably trigger the change at will. (PRESSING DOOR CONTROLS) Summon the wolf, at the touch of a button!

FX: CLUCK AND HUM OF SHIP'S DOOR OPENING.

MAGS:

(STRUGGLES) No! I will not go back to a freak show!

VARRON: (GOING INSIDE)

Now, now. I need to- (GASP OF SURPRISE)

CROSS TO:

SCENE 60: INT. VARRON'S SHIP (CONTINUOUS)

FX: SPARKS AND CRACKLE OF BROKEN CIRCUITRY. VARRON STEPS INSIDE, APPROACHING CONTROLS.

VARRON:

My ship? Who has done this to my ship!

FX: MAGS STUMBLES IN.

MAGS:

I'm no expert, but I'd say your flight-deck's pretty much smashed to bits. Not all going your way after all, is it?

VARRON:

(ANGRY CRY)

FX: VARRON HITS BROKEN CONTROLS IN FRUSTRATION.

SCENE 61: INT. JAILHOUSE

FX: HUM AND PULSE. HEAVY BOLT SLOWLY DRAWS ACROSS OUTSIDE DOOR.

DOCTOR:

(CONCENTRATING) And there we go... The wonders of electro-magnetism.

MALEEVA:

Of all the things to keep in your pockets. Springs, broken watches, powerpacks, and that- what did you call it?

DOCTOR:

Yo-yo. Very relaxing, but not nearly as effective at unlocking bolts as a spoon, a wire and a battery. (EFFORT, OPENS DOOR)

FX: DOCTOR PUSHES CELL DOOR, THEY STEP OUTSIDE.

MALEEVA:

(HURRYING) We need to talk to Trella.

DOCTOR

(HURRYING) Too late. We need to get back to your laboratory. While it's still standing!

FX: THEY HURRY ALONG STONE PASSAGE.

SCENE 62: EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE

FX: MONSTERS GROWL AND ROAR. VILLAGERS GETTING MORE AGITATED AND ANIMALISTIC.

TRELLA:

We've been afraid too long. Letting her get away with everything she does up there!

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(JEERS)

TRELLA:

We're not afraid any more! We are angry!

WILRIC:

Gokroth is our world. We'll rid it of outsiders!

TRELLA:

My boy is right. Take up arms! Pitchforks, shovels, anything you have!

WILRIC:

Light torches! Bring kindling. We'll burn the Castle!

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(ANGRY CRIES)

CROSS TO:

SCENE 63: **EXT. ALLEYWAY (CONTINUOUS)**

FX: THE CROWD IN THE DISTANCE. THE DOCTOR AND MALEEVA OPEN A DOOR AND HURRY INTO ALLEYWAY.

DOCTOR:
Listen. They're on the rampage.

MALEEVA:
This can't be happening.

DOCTOR:
Almost like wild animals... Come on!

FX: THEY START TO HURRY AWAY FROM CROWD.

MALEEVA:
It's all breaking down.

DOCTOR:
We need to get away before they realise we're gone.

FX: DOCTOR AND MALEEVA HURRY OFF. IN DISTANCE, VARRON'S TRAILER APPROACHES, SPUTTERING, LOW ON POWER.

MALEEVA:
What's that?

DOCTOR:
With a bit of luck, a distraction.

FX: THEY HURRY AWAY.

CROSS TO:

SCENE 64: EXT. OUTSIDE VILLAGE GATES

FX: VARRON'S TRAILER REACHES GATES AND SPUTTERS OUT. VARRON AND MAGS GET OUT, MAGS STILL ON A LEASH.

MAGS:

We only just made it.

VARRON:

I don't understand. Who wrecked my vessel?

MAGS:

You should see this, Varron. Your locks have failed.

FX: TRAILER DOORS OPEN. INSIDE, GOKROTH MONSTERS START TO STIR DURING FOLLOWING.

VARRON:

Failed? Impossible!

MAGS:

This vehicle's on a power relay from your ship, am I right? And your ship is kaput. So are your locks. (EFFORT) And so's this leash!

VARRON:

(EFFORT HOLDING HER) Stop struggling, girl!

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:

(GROWLS, SNARLS)

MAGS:

(EFFORT, THROWING OFF LEASH) Might as well let me go. Your prisoners are waking up, you'll need both hands to deal with them.

FX: MAGS STEPS AWAY, VARRON DROPS LASSO.

VARRON:

Gah! I snared you once. I will again, when I'm ready.

FX: ANGRY VILLAGERS APPROACH, CARRYING PITCHFORKS AND TORCHES.

VILLAGER WILDTRACK:

(JEERS)

MAGS:

You've bigger problems than me right now.

TRELLA: (APPROACHING)

Showman! Swindler!

VARRON:

Trella! What is going on?

TRELLA:

You brought the monsters back?

VARRON:

I can't do anything with them. Someone has sabotaged my ship!

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS START CLIMBING FROM TRAILER.

BEAR-MONSTER:

(ROARS) Who lock us up?

FX: VARRON BACKS AWAY, FIDDLING WITH HIS CONTROL DEVICE, IT HUMS AND POWERS DOWN.

VARRON:

Work, damn you. Wake, my creatures. Wake!

MAGS:

Your controls are useless. What now?

FX: VARRON BACKS OFF, TAKING CONTROL DEVICE APART.

VARRON: (JUST OFF)

Give me a moment.

BEAR-MONSTER:

Metal things. Asleep. (EFFORT) Throw them out!

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:

(ROARS, EFFORT)

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS EMERGE, THROWING INERT CYBERNETIC CREATURES OUT OF THEIR WAY. ROBOTIC LIMBS CLANK AS THEY'RE THROWN ABOUT.

TRELLA:

Are these our monsters? They speak?

WILRIC:

I told you, mother. They have laws. They punished the one who killed Porrow and Balva. I don't believe they're the ones taking our people.

BEAR-MONSTER:

(ROARS) Humans help! Free us!

TRELLA:

It wants us to help?

BEAR-MONSTER:

(ROARS) Move metal guards!

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS SHIFT INERT CREATURES, VARRON APPROACHES.

VARRON:

Stop this! Now!

WILRIC:

Back off, alien.

MAGS:

Wilric? What's wrong with you? You're not like this.

WILRIC:

You stay back too. (CALLING) Pull out the cages! Free the monsters!

TRELLA:

Yes. Move the cyborgs. We will free Gokroth's own!

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(EFFORT)

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:

(GROWLS, SNARLS)

FX: MONSTERS AND VILLAGERS DRAG CAGES OUT OF TRAILER.

SCENE 65: EXT. MOUNTAIN PATH MALEEVA'S CASTLE

FX: DOCTOR AND MALEEVA HURRY ALONG ROCKY PATH.

DOCTOR:

Varron will keep them occupied. We need to reach my TARDIS. It's in a cave on the-

MALEEVA:

(INTERRUPTS) The blue box? No. It's not.

DOCTOR:

What?

MALEEVA:

I had Gor bring it to the Castle. It's in the cellar. We cannot allow interference. Any ships, any transmitters, we have to destroy.

FX: THEY STOP ON PATH.

DOCTOR:

(STOPPING) You need to tell me, Maleeva. Why are you here?

MALEEVA:

I came here – we came here, Gor and I – to save people.

DOCTOR:

Where did you come from?

FX: IN DISTANCE, MONSTERS AND VILLAGERS COMMOTION. (WILDTRACK FROM SCENE 64)

MALEEVA:

And I didn't make the monsters. I brought them with me.

DOCTOR:

What?!

MALEEVA:

You might as well know the full story.

DOCTOR:

Finally.

SEGUE INTO FLASHBACK:

SCENE 66: INT. RESEARCH STATION [FLASHBACK]

FX: SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH STATION. BLEEPING COMPUTERS, MEDICAL MONITORS. SWISH OF HI-TECH DOORS. MALEEVA'S FOOTSTEPS ALONG CORRIDOR.

MALEEVA: (VOICEOVER)

Science Station Zeta. I'd dreamed of making a difference all through my studies. I left my home system and achieved the highest xenobiology grades Luna ever saw.

DOCTOR: (VOICEOVER)

Passing exams is overrated.

MALEEVA: (VOICEOVER)

When I got posted to Station Zeta, I thought the research would be ground-breaking. Life-changing. But all I found were egos. Willing to put ethics aside so they could stand with the likes of Megresta, Solon, Drastal. Pioneers of xeno-medicine.

FX: IN THE FLASHBACK, MALEEVA IS DISMISSED BY A SCIENTIST.

SCIENTIST:

See to the samples, Maleeva.

MALEEVA:

Yes, sir.

FX: MALEEVA WALKS ON AND OPERATES KEYPAD. SECURITY DOOR UNLOCKS AND OPENS. MALEEVA WALKS INSIDE.

MALEEVA: (VOICEOVER)

I thought I'd be curing disease. But Station Zeta was all about genetic manipulation.

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:

(PITIFUL MOANS, CRIES)

MALEEVA: (VOICEOVER)

They took people. Slaves. Humans who were dispossessed, homes lost through war or disaster – and used them. To make them stronger, hardier, better suited to fighting, or hard labour.

FX: UNDER FOLLOWING, MALEEVA UNLOCKS CAGES, MONSTERS STEP OUT.

DOCTOR: (VOICEOVER)

By splicing them with alien and animal DNA. Monstrous.

MALEEVA: (VOICEOVER)

In the end I couldn't countenance it. I stole a vessel. Sedated the experiments. And freed them.

FX: MONSTERS LUMBER ALONG CORRIDOR WITH MALEEVA.

MALEEVA:

(WHISPER) Come on. This way.

FX: SHE OPENS A SPACESHIP HATCH. THE MONSTERS ENTER.

MALEEVA: (VOICEOVER)

Hundreds of creatures – humans irreversibly merged with other species. Or so they thought.

FX: SPACESHIP ENGINES REV, AS VESSEL DEPARTS STATION AND FLIES AWAY.

SCENE 67: EXT. MOUNTAIN PATH (CONTD)

FX: AS SCENE 65, MONSTER COMMOTION, OFF.

MALEEVA:

I brought them here.

DOCTOR:

And you put these people in danger.

MALEEVA:

You don't understand. There were no people. The villagers are my creation. They're the ones I've made. (BEAT) They are the monsters of Gokroth!

END OF PART THREE

PART FOUR

REPRISE:

FX: AS SCENE 65, DOCTOR AND MALEEVA LOOK DOWN AT THE MONSTERS.

MALEEVA:

I brought them here.

DOCTOR:

And you put these people in danger.

MALEEVA:

You don't understand. There were no people. The villagers are my creation. They're the ones I've made. They are the monsters of Gokroth!

CONTINUES INTO:

SCENE 68: EXT. MOUNTAIN PATH

FX: THE DOCTOR AND MALEEVA SCRABBLE ONTO RIDGE, THE MOB IS CLEARER (FROM SCENE 64).

DOCTOR:

Oh, Maleeva.

MALEEVA:

I was only ever trying to save them.

DOCTOR:

(MISQUOTING) And the Doctor looked from monster to villager, and from villager to monster... But it was impossible to say which was which. (CLIMBING DOWN) We need to get to your Castle. Now.

FX: THEY CARRY ON UP THE PATH.

SCENE 69: **EXT. OUTSIDE VILLAGE**

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS THROW CYBERNETIC CREATURES OUT OF TRAILER.

TRELLA:

See this? We know now, monsters of the forest are not our enemy. We'll rid our world of its true evil. The alien Maleeva takes our people, not them!

VILLAGER WILDTRACK:

(ANGRY CRIES)

TRELLA:

This thing, it is an alien machine. (EFFORT) Push it over! Smash the cages!

FX: VILLAGERS START ROCKING TRAILER TO PUSH IT OVER, CONTINUE SMASHING CAGES THROUGH FOLLOWING.

MAGS:

Varron, while you're fiddling with your box of tricks, they're wrecking your trailer!

FX: VARRON FINISHES SLOTTING TOGETHER CONTROL DEVICE, GETS UP AND APPROACHES.

VARRON:

There. We'll soon see about this. (CALLING) That is my property! Leave it alone.

TRELLA:

Do not get in our way, Varron.

WILRIC:

He's an alien. So's she. Mags, you should leave if you don't want to get hurt.

MAGS:

What's wrong with you?

FX: HUM AND BUZZ AS VARRON'S CONTROL STARTS WORKING AGAIN.

VARRON:

You see? Spare power-pack! My creatures can protect me. You know I can make them do anything. Anything!

FX: CYBERNETIC CREATURES COME TO LIFE AND STAND. THEY HOWL AS BEFORE.

LIZARD-MONSTER:

(HISS) Metal things! Kill!

FX: LIZARD-MONSTER ATTACKS. CRACKLE OF ELECTRICITY AS BEFORE.

VARRON:

(USING CONTROLS) Defence mode! Full force!

LIZARD-MONSTER:

(DEATH CRY)

FX: LIZARD-MONSTER COLLAPSES, DEAD. WRECKING ACTIVITY STOPS, SHOCKED. GOKROTH MONSTERS SNUFFLE AROUND THE BODY.

BEAR-MONSTER:

(MOURNFUL ROAR) What is law? No kill. No kill.

WILRIC:

They killed it. They killed one of our own.

MAGS:

Your 'own'?

BEAR-MONSTER:

(ROAR) Metal things! Make stop!

GOKROTH MONSTERS & VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(ANGRY ROARS)

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS AND VILLAGERS ATTACK VARRON'S CREATURES.

MAGS:

Look what you've done. You've made them angry. Your cyborgs are weakening.

FX: VARRON FIDDLES WITH CONTROL DEVICE, LOSING POWER.

VARRON:

Defence mode? No, no, no.

MAGS:

You just blew all your power reserves, killing one giant lizard!

VARRON:

You're mad. All of you. Come, my creatures. Protect me! Retreat. (TO SELF) To the ship. Barricade myself in, till this madness is over.

FX: VARRON RUNS, WITH SOME OF HIS CREATURES. WILRIC DASHES AFTER HIM.

WILRIC:

(RUNNING) You won't get away with this- (CRIES OUT) Aarrgh!

FX: A CYBERNETIC CREATURE BATS WILRIC AWAY, HE GOES FLYING AWAY FROM THE CHAOS. MAGS DASHES OVER.

MAGS:

No! What have you done? If you've hurt him..

WILRIC:

(MOANS, DAZED)

VARRON: (JUST OFF)

Help your village idiot if you wish. (RUNNING OFF) They won't thank you. You're an outsider, just like me.

MAGS:

(CALLING) Wrong. I wanted to stay. This mess, it's all your fault!

FX: VARRON AND CYBERNETIC CREATURES RUN AWAY, AS MONSTERS AND VILLAGERS CARRY ON WRECKING TRAILER.

MAGS:

Wilric? I've got you.

FX: MAGS DRAGS HIM OFF TO HIDE.

MAGS:

(EFFORT) Stay with me. We don't want to get caught up in this.

BEAR-MONSTER:

Smash prison machine!

TRELLA:

Technology brings only pain. Destroy the engine! Destroy it completely!

VILLAGER WILDTRACK:

(ANGRY CRIES)

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS AND VILLAGERS CARRY ON WRECKING VEHICLE.

SCENE 70: EXT. OUTSIDE MALEEVA'S LABORATORY

FX: DOCTOR AND MALEEVA REACH CASTLE STEPS, THEY CLIMB UP.

DOCTOR:

Why come here?

MALEEVA:

Morphic fields. They enhance genetic mutation. Gokroth's atmosphere is riddled with them. Energies in the air, permeating all living things. I harness them, amplify their effect.

DOCTOR:

I thought I sensed something. I just put it down to your climate of fear.

MALEEVA:

(ANNOYED) I'm trying to explain! (CALMER) I'd found this place in Zeta Station's records. Somewhere augmented evolution occurs naturally. Plant and insect species undergoing rapid changes. Colonisation had been attempted, but abandoned when settlers showed signs of mutation. The world was empty. No indigenous intelligent life.

DOCTOR:

Until you created some.

MALEEVA:

It was a safe environment. No-one would come near, but I set up a quarantine anyway.

DOCTOR:

You had help.

MALEEVA:

Gor was a pilot, he ferried supplies to Station Zeta. He's not a mutant. Just alien, used to different gravity. I taught him to speak our language.

DOCTOR:

And he was loyal to the end. He died trying to save you.

FX: THEY REACH TOP OF STEPS, MALEEVA OPENS THE CASTLE DOORS.

MALEEVA:

Gor always wanted to help me. I don't know why.

FX: MALEEVA ENTERS, DOCTOR FOLLOWS.

DOCTOR:

(SIGH) Science really is blind.

SCENE 71: EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS AND VILLAGERS FINISH SMASHING UP VARRON'S TRAILER.

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:
(ROARS)

TRELLA:
Varron is the enemy. But you... you are on our side.

BEAR-MONSTER:
(GROWL) All Gokroth. Together. (ROAR) Brothers. Sisters.

TRELLA:
(WONDERING) Sister? Yes. Somehow, we are the same...

BEAR-MONSTER:
Others. Fight only others. Others make pain.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:
(ANGRY CRIES)

TRELLA:
We see the truth. We are Gokroth. But Varron and Maleeva. They are not us.

BEAR-MONSTER:
Not us.

TRELLA:
The man who caught you. He has a ship. We must go together and destroy it, like this machine.

BEAR-MONSTER:
Go! Destroy! (ROAR) Together!

TRELLA:
First, Varron's ship!

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:
(ROARS)

TRELLA:
Then we destroy the scientist's Castle!

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS HEAD OFF, ALONG WITH VILLAGERS CARRYING PITCHFORKS AND TORCHES.

SCENE 72: EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE (CONTINUOUS)

FX: A SCUFFLE AS WILRIC BREAKS AWAY FROM MAGS, HIDING BEHIND WRECKAGE.

WILRIC:
(EFFORT, BREAKING FREE)

MAGS:
Wilric. Don't go!

WILRIC:
I must!

MAGS:
No. Not with them. There's something happening here. I can sense it.

WILRIC:
We must rid Gokroth of aliens. Of scientists!

MAGS:
(GRABBING HIM) Wilric. Look at me. Do you trust me?

WILRIC:
Mags... I don't know.

MAGS:
We have to find the Doctor. There's only one place he'll be. Come with me. Up the mountain. To the Castle.

SCENE 73: INT. CASTLE HALL

FX: DOCTOR AND MALEEVA WALK INTO LARGE, ECHOING HALL. MALEEVA CLOSSES DOORS.

MALEEVA:

(EFFORT, CLOSING DOORS) Gor helped me modify the Castle. It was one of the old colony settlements.

DOCTOR:

I like what you've done with the place. Very Victor Frankenstein.

MALEEVA:

(WALKING ON) This way, down to the cellar. Gor also helped me equip the laboratory. Made detours on his supply runs. Eventually he stayed full time.

FX: MALEEVA CROSSES STONE FLOOR, DOCTOR FOLLOWS.

DOCTOR:

And you set about changing the monsters back into humans.

SEGUE INTO FLASHBACK:

SCENE 74: INT. LABORATORY [FLASHBACK]

FX: CRASH OF THUNDER/LIGHTNING.

MALEEVA: (VOICEOVER)

We had great success at first.

FX: FULL-ON FRANKENSTEIN LABORATORY ACTIVITY – WHIRRING MACHINES. CRACKLING ELECTRICITY, HUMMING OF TRANSFORMATION BEAM (AS IN SCENE 6). GOR DASHES ABOUT PULLING SWITCHES AND LEVERS.

GOR:

Mistress! The process is beginning!

MALEEVA: (VOICEOVER)

You see, the splicing was irreversible using conventional surgery. But the morphic fields of Gokroth meant I could focus on the tissue cells themselves. Boost the host's genetic code with healing radiation. Bring about a transformation back to the original biology.

FX: ANOTHER CRASH OF THUNDER, INCREASED HUMMING AND CRACKLING.

GOR:

It is working! It is working!

MALEEVA:

Reduce power levels. Let me see the subject!

FX: MACHINERY POWERS DOWN. RUSTLING OF SHEET, AS TRELLA SITS UP.

TRELLA:

(GASP) Where am I?

GOR:

It's alive!

MALEEVA:

She is alive. Here. (HELPING TRELLA UP) Can you stand?

DOCTOR: (VOICEOVER)

A very dangerous gamble. How could you be sure the new form would be stable?

MALEEVA: (VOICEOVER)

I couldn't. I needed them to remain in isolation to be certain.

CROSS TO:

SCENE 75: EXT. VILLAGE [FLASHBACK]

FX: VILLAGERS GOING ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS. CARTS, SAWING WOOD.

MALEEVA: (VOICEOVER)

Together, Gor and I built the village. Somewhere we could house our successes. Make sure the process had worked.

DOCTOR: (VOICEOVER)

And their memories? Implanted templates, I presume?

TRELLA:

Wilric! Come in. Your food is on the table!

WILRIC:

Yes mother.

MALEEVA: (VOICEOVER)

The truth would be too traumatic. It was a kindness.

DOCTOR: (VOICEOVER)

A toy village. With pretend people.

MALEEVA: (VOICEOVER)

(ANGRY) I brought them back to what they were! Finally, only the most ingrained mutations remained.

DOCTOR: (VOICEOVER)

Living in the forest. Becoming a source of fear and superstition. You became one of those too.

MALEEVA: (VOICEOVER)

I was happy to keep myself apart. Not to interfere with the experiments.

SEGUE OUT OF FLASHBACK, BACK TO:

SCENE 76: INT. MALEEVA'S LABORATORY

FX: THEY WALK DOWN STONE STEPS.

MALEEVA: (JUST OFF)

I can do without your censure, Doctor. Once I was one-hundred percent confident in stability, Gor took them away, to live elsewhere. His world has human settlers. He took care of them.

DOCTOR: (JUST OFF)

Spiriting families away in the night. That would hardly make those left behind feel secure.

FX: THEY REACH BOTTOM OF STAIRS AND ENTER LAB.

MALEEVA:

I realise that now. Of course I do.

DOCTOR:

The thing about humans, left to their own devices, they'll always find something to fear. What now?

FX: MALEEVA FIDDLES WITH DORMANT TECHNOLOGY.

MALEEVA:

Gor's dead. The people are panicking.

DOCTOR:

More than that. You saw what was happening. They are reverting.

MALEEVA:

I've been away from my lab too long. And this newcomer, this Varron, his technology's interfering with the fields.

DOCTOR:

You can't control life. Your intentions might have been honourable – eventually – but you've created a society living in mortal dread. It isn't healthy.

FX: MALEEVA GIVES UP FIDDLING, DROPS TOOLS.

MALEEVA:

(FRUSTRATED SIGH) I don't know what to do.

DOCTOR:

That's a start. Admitting that you need help. (STEPS FORWARD)
Let me see what I can do.

SCENE 77: INT. VARRON'S SHIP

FX: CRASHING AND BANGING OUTSIDE ON HULL. VARRON COWERS AMID SPARKING EQUIPMENT.

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK: (MUFFLED OUTSIDE)
(ROARS)

VARRON:
(CALLING) Leave me alone! I'm only trying to make a living!

FX: THE CONTROL DEVICE HUMS, AND THE CYBERNETIC CREATURES START EMITTING SOMETHING LIKE WHINING, FEARFUL AND PAINED.

VARRON:
What use are you? You're no protection. I may as well burn out your brains.

FX: VARRON TURNS CONTROLS TO MAXIMUM. THE PITCH OF THE CREATURES' CRIES CHANGES TO HOWLS OF PAIN (AGAIN, WE CAN DISTORT SOME GOKROTH MONSTER SAMPLES HERE)

VARRON:
Nothing to defend myself. Nothing I can do!

FX: THUMPING STOPS, THEN CRASHES IN AGAIN EVEN LOUDER, CRUMPLING OF METAL AS HULL STARTS TO GIVE WAY.

VARRON:
This can't be the end. I can't die like this! Not Varron. Not the greatest entertainer of the Hundred Systems. Not the winner of- (BREAKS OFF, REMEMBERING SOMETHING) Ah-ha! Of course!

FX: VARRON PULLS A METAL PANEL FROM HIS SHIP'S CONTROL BANK.

VARRON:
Service tunnel access... (EFFORT) Yes! There is another way out after all. (CLAMBERING INTO SERVICE TUNNEL)

FX: VARRON SCRAMBLES AWAY, THROUGH TUNNEL. HE OPERATES HIS CONTROL DEVICE, ECHOING INSIDE THE TUNNEL.

VARRON: (OFF, INSIDE TUNNEL)
(CALLING) Well, come along if you're coming, then!

FX: CYBERNETIC CREATURES START TO CLIMB IN AFTER HIM.

CROSS TO:

SCENE 78: EXT. OUTSIDE VARRON'S SHIP (CONTINUOUS)

FX: VILLAGERS AND MONSTERS SMASHING UP THE SHIP TOGETHER. UNDER FOLLOWING, THEY LIGHT FIRES.

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:
(ROARS)

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:
(ANGRY CRIES)

BEAR-MONSTER:
(GROWL) All Gokroth. Together.

FX: FIRE AND EXPLOSIONS AS THE FLAMES TAKE HOLD AND VARRON'S SHIP IGNITES.

TRELLA:
Back! Get back. It's the end of this alien! Our work here is done.

BEAR-MONSTER:
Go! All!

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:
(ROARS)

TRELLA:
Now, to the Castle!

FX: GOKROTH MONSTERS AND VILLAGERS HEAD OFF AGAIN, WITH PITCHFORKS AND TORCHES.

VARRON'S SHIP ERUPTS IN EXPLOSION.

SCENE 79: EXT. MOUNTAIN PATH

FX: MAGS AND WILRIC HURRY ALONG ROCKY MOUNTAIN PATH. WILRIC STUMBLES AS MAGS STRIDES AHEAD.

WILRIC:
(GASP) Mags. Slow down!

MAGS:
We can't. Not if we want to save you, and your people.

WILRIC:
But, the closer we get – (GASP OF PAIN)

FX: MAGS COMES BACK TO HIM.

MAGS:
Wilric?

WILRIC:
(GASP) What's happening to me? (ROAR)

MAGS:
Tell me what you feel.

FX: TRANSFORMATION FX, SIMILAR TO WOLF-MAGS.

WILRIC:
Monster. Inside. Taking over. Wants to get out.

MAGS:
Focus on your breathing. Concentrate on one thing. Something that reminds you of being human. Keep your mind alive. Count.

WILRIC:
Don't like numbers. Never any good at maths! (CRY OF PAIN)

MAGS:
What do you like?

WILRIC:
Stories.

MAGS:
That's it then. Remember the stories your mother told.

WILRIC: (FX, TRANSFORMING)
(GASP) I can't! I think back... and I can't! I don't remember being a child. Not here. Not with her. Just... pain! (GROWL)
(PANICKING) What's wrong with me?

MAGS:

OK, OK. Calm down. I'll tell you a story. Breathe. There once was a girl who ran away to see a circus. Well, she was dragged away, really. By a selfish, self-centred egotistical explorer.

FX: TRANSFORMATION FX SUBSIDE.

WILRIC:

(BREATHING CALMING) Go on. Tell me what happened?

MAGS:

Only if you get up and carry on walking.

FX: WILRIC GETS UP AND THEY START WALKING AGAIN.

WILRIC:

(EFFORT) Alright. I'll try.

MAGS:

Good. Come on. We can do this. (EFFORT SUPPORTING HIM, AS THEY WALK ON) So, this girl. She was taken to the circus by the explorer. Only, it wasn't any normal circus. Oh, no. Although they did have clowns. And while she was there, she met a Doctor...

SCENE 80: INT. MALEEVA'S LABORATORY

FX: HUM OF POWER AS DOCTOR CHARGES UP THE EQUIPMENT.

DOCTOR:

The people deserve to know the truth. The first thing we should do is remove those false memories.

MALEEVA:

It'll send them mad.

DOCTOR:

Don't underestimate them.

FX: MALEEVA CHECKS THE EQUIPMENT, BEEPS AND BUZZES AS DOCTOR KEEPS FIDDLING WITH CONTROLS AND MACHINERY.

MALEEVA:

You've rearranged my battery arrays! The morphic signal, it's boosted ten times over. I don't believe it.

DOCTOR:

Didn't I mention, I'm a genius? And I didn't pass any exams.

MALEEVA:

What have you done?

DOCTOR:

Corrected a few little glitches in your calculations.

MALEEVA:

My-?

FX: DOCTOR FLICKS A SWITCH. HUM OF TRANSFORMATION BEAM STARTS PULSING, GROWING MORE POWERFUL THROUGH FOLLOWING.

DOCTOR:

This equipment is now several decades ahead of its time. But I won't tell if you won't.

MALEEVA:

Doctor, please stop all this flippancy and equivocation! Tell me exactly what you've done.

FX: TRANSFORMATION BEAM PULSES AT FULL POWER.

DOCTOR:

(OVER NOISE) But I like equivocating flippantly. (CHECKING EQUIPMENT) Now, as you've observed, I've boosted your signal. Out across this world. Their change in form will stabilise. And those false memories will disappear. Given time.

FX: ARROWS HITTING WALLS. A WINDOW SMASHES, OFF. MALEEVA DASHES TO STAIRS.

MALEEVA:

(CALLING) Someone's shooting arrows at the Castle! I think we've already run out of time.

SCENE 81: EXT. MOUNTAIN PATH

FX: UNDERNEATH FOLLOWING SCENES, THE TRANSFORMATION BEAM PULSES, LIKE A STORM ONGOING IN B/G. THE VILLAGERS MARCH WITH PITCHFORKS, TORCHES. MONSTERS SCURRYING ALONGSIDE.

TRELLA:

Fire again! Smash those windows! Break down the walls!

FX: VOLLEY OF ARROWS LET LOOSE AT CASTLE. WINDOWS SMASH.

TRELLA:

Look at the place. Hear her machines! Maleeva is brewing more misery for us all!

FX: BEAR-MONSTER LUMBERS OVER.

TRELLA:

Come on! This night we get rid of her forever! (GASP OF PAIN)

BEAR-MONSTER:

What is wrong?

FX: MASS TRANSFORMATION FX, AS VILLAGERS START TO TRANSFORM INTO GOKROTH MONSTER-FORM.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK: (FX, TRANSFORMING)

(CRIES OF PAIN, SURPRISE, AS TRANSFORMATION HITS)

TRELLA: (FX, TRANSFORMED)

Nothing wrong. I feel stronger.

BEAR-MONSTER:

Strong, good! We go on!

TRELLA: (FX)

Yes! Onward! (ROARS)

GOKROTH MONSTERS WILDTRACK:

(ROARS)

BEAR-MONSTER:

Who is there? Ahead, on path?

TRELLA: (FX)

Wilric! My boy. (CALLING) Open the gates for us. Come on!

FX: VILLAGERS AND GOKROTH MONSTERS, NOW ALL IN MONSTER FORM, STRIDE ON WITH PITCHFORKS AND TORCHES.

CROSS TO:

SCENE 82: EXT. CASTLE GATES

FX: TRANSFORMATION BEAM PULSING OVERHEAD IN B/G. UNLOCKING AND SLOW OPENING OF HUGE GATES.

MAGS:

Wilric? Are you with me?

WILRIC: (FX, TRANSFORMED)

Not Wilric. Monster. Remember, monster.

FX: DOCTOR STEPS OUT OF OPENING GATES.

DOCTOR:

Mags! Are you the advance party?

MAGS:

Doctor! I have no idea what's going on. Look at Wilric. Look at the villagers down there? They're... monsters!

DOCTOR:

Yes, there was always a danger they'd revert before they stabilise.

MAGS:

What are you talking about?

DOCTOR:

The people aren't people, Mags. Well, they were. But they were turned into monsters. I'm trying to turn them back.

MAGS:

Maleeva!

DOCTOR:

Don't blame her. I think she has a good heart.

MAGS:

No, I mean – there's Maleeva!

FX: MALEEVA HURRIES TO GATES FROM INSIDE.

MALEEVA: (ARRIVING)

I thought you were coming out here to fortify the gates – not open them!

DOCTOR:

Haven't you learned by now? Nothing is achieved by closing doors.

FX: FLURRY OF ARROWS HIT THE GATES. THE GOKROTH MONSTERS AND VILLAGERS APPROACH.

MALEEVA:

Apart from us staying alive, no!

DOCTOR:

We simply need to buy some more time. Let my changes run their course.

TRELLA: (FX) (OFF)

You! Scientists! (INVOLUNTARY GROWLS) What have you done to us?

FX: GROWLS AND SNARLS FROM PEOPLE.

MALEEVA:

Stop this. Please-

DOCTOR:

Maleeva. Go back in and check the cycle. It should almost be complete. Mags, Wilric, go with her. I only need to hold everyone here a little longer!

MALEEVA:

(FRUSTRATED SIGH) Oh, very well.

FX: MALEEVA DASHES OFF INTO CASTLE.

MAGS:

You'll hold back an army of monsters? On your own?

DOCTOR:

Nothing I haven't done before. Go!

FX: MAGS AND WILRIC HURRY INSIDE GROUNDS. DOCTOR STEPS FORWARD AS GOKROTH MONSTERS AND VILLAGERS APPROACH.

BEAR-MONSTER:

(ROAR) You. Other. Not Gokroth.

TRELLA: (FX)

(MONSTER-LIKE) What have you done? What are we?

DOCTOR:

(ADDESSING CROWD) Look at you all! Marching on the Castle, with torches and pitchforks. Humans and monsters – together. Trella? Stop and think. What are you really afraid of? You lived in fear of the monsters, but they're right beside you now! And who can tell the difference?

TRELLA:

We – we are not monsters.

DOCTOR:

No. None of you are. You are all Gokroth's people now.

BEAR-MONSTER:

(ROARS) Gokroth! I remember!

TRELLA: (FX)

I remember. Maleeva. Gor. They... saved us.

FX: TRANSFORMATION FX, AS VILLAGERS START TO TURN BACK.

DOCTOR:

That's right! And you are changing. You can live together. Look at what unites you, not what sets you apart! Please. Hold on to your humanity, and let us help you.

SCENE 83: **EXT. CASTLE GROUNDS**

FX: WILRIC AND MAGS RUNNING.

WILRIC: (FX)
(RUNNING) Mother?

MAGS:
(RUNNING) She's alright. It's the Doctor I'm worried about.

FX: THE UPPER FLOORS OF THE CASTLE ARE BURNING. THEY STOP.

WILRIC: (FX)
Fire! Fire everywhere!

MAGS:
How did that happen? The villagers are just shooting arrows. They can't set the place alight till they get here. But somebody else already has...

FX: CRASHING AND SMASHING OF WINDOWS UPSTAIRS.

MAGS:
That came from inside. There's a hole in the wall back there. Whoever did this is still in there!

FX: MAGS DASHES FORWARD, WILRIC COWERS BACK.

WILRIC:
(AFRAID) Fire. (GASPS) Fire.

MAGS:
Don't worry. Wait here, Wilric. I'm going in. (RUNNING) But I'd better change first.

FX: MAGS STARTS RUNNING, AS HER TRANSFORMATION FX BEGIN.

SCENE 84: INT. CASTLE HALL

FX: MALEEVA DASHES ACROSS HALL. FLAMES ON UPPER FLOORS THROUGHOUT.

MALEEVA:

What's happened in here? Hello? Is someone there?

FX: CYBERNETIC WHIRRS AS VARRON'S CREATURES OVERTURNS FURNITURE, SMASHING WINDOWS.

VARRON: (FROM UPSTAIRS)

This is it, Maleeva! You brought this on yourself. I am burning your Castle!

MALEEVA:

How did you get in?

VARRON:

I still have one or two of my creatures left. The ones strong enough to escape my ship, climb the mountain and break down your wall.

MALEEVA:

You're hurt, Varron. Burned. Let me see-

VARRON:

(INTERRUPTS) Never mind that! Destroy my livelihood, would you?

FX: VARRON STOMPS DOWN STAIRS. CYBERNETIC CREATURES FOLLOW.

MALEEVA:

You did that. Anything founded on misery and slavery was never going to last.

VARRON:

I've enough power left, I can order my creatures down these stairs. Order them to kill you!

FX: VARRON USES CONTROLS, AND HIS CREATURES ADVANCE DOWN THE STAIRS. THERE IS SOME PITIFUL, DISTORTED WAILING FROM THEM.

MALEEVA:

They're already dead. You killed them when you took away their free will. When you wired their brains into your control. They're nothing more than cybernetic corpses now.

FX: CREATURES ADVANCE ON MALEEVA.

VARRON:

Keep telling yourself that, while you join them!

FX: VARRON STABBING AT CONTROLS, SUDDENLY WOLF-MAGS BOUNDS UP, SNARLING.

MAGS: (FX, TRANSFORMED)
(SNARLS)

MALEEVA:
Mags! No!

FX: VARRON BACKS AWAY.

VARRON:
Stay away, you vicious mutt! I said-

FX: MAGS POUNCES ON VARRON, SENDING HIS CONTROL BOX FLYING.

VARRON:
Aaargh! My controls... (HE SCRAMBLES AWAY)

FX: VARRON RUNS INTO NEXT ROOM, MAGS BOUNDS AFTER HIM.

MALEEVA:
Mags! Wait!

SCENE 85: **EXT. CASTLE GROUNDS**

FX: CASTLE BURNING, IN B/G. DOCTOR HURRIES OVER TO WILRIC, ON THE GROUND.

WILRIC:

(PANTING) I couldn't. Couldn't go in.

DOCTOR:

Wilric. I think your mother is listening. I just need them to wait at the gates a little longer, while the mutation completes.

FX: WILRIC GET UP.

WILRIC:

Doctor. I couldn't stop her! She changed!

DOCTOR:

How are you feeling, young man? Human again?

WILRIC:

Yes. I- (REALISING) My mind's clear. I feel fine.

DOCTOR:

Good. Then you can join your people.

WILRIC:

But Mags-

FX: MALEEVA DASHES OUT FROM CASTLE.

MALEEVA: (OFF)

Doctor!

DOCTOR:

Hello! Your Castle appears to be on fire.

MALEEVA:

It's Varron. He's intent on destroying the place. Mags let loose the wolf. She's attacking him!

WILRIC:

That's what I was trying to tell you.

DOCTOR:

Very well. Dr Maleeva, deal with your charges. (RUNNING) I need to find mine.

FX: DOCTOR RUSHES OFF INTO CASTLE.

WILRIC:

Dr Maleeva?

MALEEVA:

We must get everyone away from here. My laboratory is filled with highly volatile equipment.

FX: SHE HURRIES OFF TOWARDS GATE WITH WILRIC.

WILRIC:

(RUNNING) What do you mean?

MALEEVA:

(RUNNING) The place is about to explode! Come on.

SCENE 86: **INT. CASTLE HALL**

FX: FLAMES GETTING CLOSER FROM ABOVE. VARRON IS THROWN ACROSS ROOM, SMASHING FURNITURE.

VARRON:

(WEAK) What a glorious specimen you are.

FX: WOLF-MAGS PACES BACK AND FORTH, SNARLING.

MAGS: (FX)

(SNARLS AND GROWLS, UNDER FOLLOWING)

FX: VARRON TRIES HIS CONTROLS. NOTHING HAPPENS.

VARRON:

My creations have deserted me. Finally. That silver-skinned meddler was right. They're dead. (EFFORT) Go on. You may as well finish this, girl.

DOCTOR: (OFF)

Mags! Where are you?

FX: TRANSFORMATION AS WOLF-MAGS CHANGES BACK TO HUMAN.

MAGS:

(GASPS) No. I won't do this.

FX: DOCTOR RUSHES IN.

DOCTOR:

Mags. Let me help you.

FX: DOCTOR GOES TO MAGS AND SUPPORTS HER.

VARRON:

(GASPS) Your animal has her own leash, Doctor.

DOCTOR:

No. She has self-control. Mercy. Things you know nothing about.

VARRON:

(GETTING UP) I'm the luckiest man alive after all. Fate has another plan for me.

FX: ONE OF THE CYBERNETIC CREATURES STARTS TO MOVE TOWARDS THEM.

VARRON'S CREATURE: (FX)

(WAIL OF PAIN)

VARRON:

Oh, now you start working again. One of you, anyway. (BEAT)
Kill them!

FX: VARRON'S CREATURE ADVANCES ON DOCTOR AND MAGS.

DOCTOR:

Poor creature. It's barely alive.

MAGS:

Yes, but it's alive enough to crush us with those- (REACTS,
SHOVED).

DOCTOR:

(SHOVED) Urgh!

FX: VARRON'S CREATURE SHOVES THEM OUT OF THE WAY, THEY FALL. IT
CARRIES ON TOWARDS VARRON.

DOCTOR:

No, it's more interested in Varron and his control box.

VARRON'S CREATURE: (FX)

(PITIFUL WAIL) Leave us!

VARRON:

It speaks?

VARRON'S CREATURE: (FX)

(MOAN) Evil... master.

FX: VARRON TRIES HIS CONTROL BOX. THE CREATURE WAILS.

VARRON:

How is this possible? You're not responding!

DOCTOR:

Stop, Varron! Don't torture it any more.

FX: THE CREATURE ADVANCES AND PICKS HIM UP.

VARRON:

(GRABBED) Urghh! Let me go.

VARRON'S CREATURE: (FX)

Let... go.

FX: MAGS RUNS TO STOP IT.

MAGS:

Hey. Put him down!

DOCTOR:

Mags, don't try to-

FX: CREATURE THROWS MAGS ACROSS ROOM INTO DOCTOR, SMASHING FURNITURE.

MAGS:

(THROWN, REACTS) Aargh!

DOCTOR:

(FALLING, REACTS) Aargh!

FX: CREATURE CARRIES A STRUGGLING VARRON DOWN TO CELLAR.

VARRON'S CREATURE: (FX)

Down.

VARRON: (CARRIED OFF)

I don't want to go down there! Release me!

FX: AFTER THEY'RE GONE, DOCTOR AND MAGS RECOVER.

DOCTOR:

(GETTING UP) Mags, are you still in one piece?

MAGS:

Yes, and... I didn't kill him.

FX: DOCTOR HELPS HER UP.

DOCTOR:

You can control the wolf.

MAGS:

I don't know about that.

DOCTOR:

Small steps. I can help you along the way. But first we should get after Varron and-

MAGS:

Look out!

FX: MAGS AND DOCTOR DIVE AWAY FROM A CRASH OF BURNING TIMBERS FROM UPSTAIRS, BLOCKING THE EXIT.

MAGS:

We've no choice now anyway. We can't get out past that.

DOCTOR:

No, the cellar's our only option. This building won't be standing much longer.

FX: THEY HURRY TO CELLAR STAIRS.

SCENE 87: EXT. MOUNTAIN PATH

FX: CASTLE IS BURNING IN B/G, OCCASIONAL MUFFLED EXPLOSIONS AND CRASHES OF GLASS. MALEEVA, VILLAGERS AND MONSTERS HURRY DOWN THE MOUNTAIN.

MALEEVA:

Come on! Hurry!

TRELLA:

You will explain all this, scientist. My memories-

MALEEVA:

Yes, yes. Let's get clear of the blast zone first.

WILRIC:

Come on. All of you. Help the... the forest-dwellers too.

FX: THEY ALL HURRY ONWARD.

SCENE 88: INT. MALEEVA'S LABORATORY

FX: VARRON'S CREATURE DRAGS HIM INTO LABORATORY.

VARRON:

Let me go! I fed you! Looked after you!

VARRON'S CREATURE: (FX)

You. Hurt. Us.

VARRON:

Stop! Stop this! I command you!

FX: PULSING OF CONTROL BOX.

VARRON'S CREATURE: (FX)

Destroy control! Destroy! (DEATH CRIES)

FX: CYBERNETIC LIMBS SMASH CONTROL AND KEEP SMASHING AT VARRON.

VARRON:

No, no – Aaargh! (DEATH CRY)

FX: MOMENTS AFTER THEY FALL, DOCTOR AND MAGS DASH IN.

DOCTOR:

Mags. Wait!

MAGS:

We're too late. It killed him.

DOCTOR:

Not before he burned out the last of its mind. It must have been running on pure instinct in the end.

MAGS:

Talking of running-

FX: CRASH AS LABORATORY WALLS COLLAPSE.

MAGS:

This cellar doesn't lead anywhere! We're trapped!

DOCTOR:

Never. This is what I came for. Maleeva told me it was here.

FX: DOCTOR UNLOCKS TARDIS AND OPENS DOOR.

MAGS:

A wooden crate? That won't be much use when the fire reaches us.

DOCTOR:

You'd be surprised. (GOING IN) Come on board.

FX: DOCTOR ENTERS TARDIS. MAGS FOLLOWS.

MAGS: (ENTERING TARDIS)

'On board'? (GOING INSIDE) You're talking like it's a ship. Oh!

FX: TARDIS DOORS CLOSE. IT DEMATERIALISES AS THE LABORATORY COLLAPSES IN FLAMES, EQUIPMENT EXPLODING.

SCENE 89: EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE

FX: VILLAGERS GATHER IN SQUARE.

MALEEVA:

(FINISHING HER ADDRESS) And that's the truth. You should remember both lives now. I did what I did to be kind. To try and keep the pain away from you. I realise now, that was not my choice to make.

TRELLA:

If this is true-

WILRIC:

Mother.

TRELLA:

I am not- your [mother]

WILRIC:

(INTERRUPTS) But you are. Both lives. We know it's true. We all remember.

VILLAGERS WILDTRACK:

(MURMURS OF AGREEMENT)

MALEEVA:

I'll try and help you. And the others. The ones in the forest. Perhaps I can start over, give them back what they've lost. Begin again, but with everyone involved.

FX: UNDER HER SPEECH, DOCTOR AND MAGS APPROACH.

DOCTOR:

That sounds like a very sympathetic offer to me.

TRELLA:

Doctor. I'm not sure what to think. Now we know the truth, now we know we are monsters.

MAGS:

Don't worry. It's not so bad being a monster.

WILRIC:

Mags! Will you stay with us?

MAGS:

I've had another offer. I'm not quite the same as you. I don't think Maleeva can help me after all. But I believe the Doctor can.

MALEEVA:

Good. Then let's get started.

WILRIC:

Goodbye Mags! Thank you Doctor.

MAGS:

Goodbye! Good luck.

FX: DOCTOR AND MAGS START WALKING AWAY.

DOCTOR: (GOING OFF)

Oh, I don't think they'll need luck. Maleeva is a genius. Takes one to know one, you see.

MAGS: (OFF)

(LAUGHS)

FX: VILLAGERS ACTIVITY FILLING CARTS AND WHEELING THEM OFF.

TRELLA:

We should make sure our friends in the forest are fed. After all that exertion, they must be hungry. Load up the carts!

FX: FOOD LOADED INTO CARTS.

WILRIC:

We should invite them to feast.

TRELLA:

I don't think we're quite ready for that, Wilric. Not yet.

WILRIC:

Why not? After all, they're family.

FX: THE VILLAGERS WHEEL CARTS ALONG STREETS.

SCENE 90: INT. TARDIS

FX: B/G HUM (1980s SEVENTH DOCTOR TARDIS) DOCTOR PULLS LEVER AND TARDIS DOORS CLOSE.

MAGS:

I still can't get over this place. This is how you and Ace got around. (BEAT) Where is- [Ace?]

DOCTOR:

(CUTS HER OFF) Somewhere else. (SAD) For a while now. I told you, I'm getting old. (SMILES) But not too old for new adventures. New travelling companions.

MAGS:

You really want me with you? In this 'TARDIS' of yours?

DOCTOR:

Of course. That's why I came looking. Unfinished business. Finding long-lost friends. Helping out where I can.

MAGS:

Well, new adventures sound good to me. I've had enough of the old ones. OK, Doctor. Where next?

FX: DOCTOR STARTS SETTING CONTROLS, THEN STOPS.

DOCTOR:

Why don't you decide? Welcome aboard, Mags.

THE END